the Resene magazine

WIN! 52 PRIZES inside

habitat

winter 08 rrp$7.



the feel-good issue

all you need to get in the mood

four new ways to love your living room

heated discussion: tips for keeping warm

delicious designer havens

flower power

at home with Jackie Clarke

make yourself a home



A regional gold winner in the 2007 Registered Master Builders awards.







from the editor

It's a hurly burly world we live in. One in which we rush from home to work, to school pick-ups to social events. One in which the world rushes to meet us with its bigger crowds, brighter advertising messages, new films, new products and faster, better technologies.

Thank goodness we have a haven called home. It's a place where we can retreat for a while, and create a cocoon for ourselves and our families.

With interior trends swinging away from minimalist interiors, our homes can be made more welcoming and comfortable. No more perching on the edge of the hard-edged sofa for fear you'll wrinkle the upholstery!

As chandeliers become the in thing, as beds are dressed in squishy brocade quilts and appliquéd cushions grace our sofas, there is more opportunity to feather our nests with strong colour and rich detail. Let's all breathe a sigh of relief that white-on-white is no longer right.

In this issue of Habitat, we bring a little of the feel-good factor to your lives – from the purely practical with advice on which insulation might suit you, to the decorative, like how to create a pretty flower arrangement to dress your house. There's an inviting family home to visit, entertainer Jackie Clarke's collections to marvel at and four luscious looks to try in your living room.

So switch off the TV, block out the world for a while and relax with this season's issue of Habitat magazine.

Rachel

from Resene

What goes around comes around. It's funny how often progress goes full circle. Resene was founded many decades ago on making coatings for concrete and now more than 60 years on, we are again involved with concrete, but this time paint is going into it, rather than on it.

Resene has been working with Fletcher Building, Golden Bay Cement, Firth Industries and 3R during the past few years to develop novel ideas for turning waste paint once destined for landfills into a useful ingredient in concrete. The outcome – PaintCrete, a PaintWise solution – will divert thousands and thousands of litres of paint into concrete manufacture, improving the properties of the concrete.

Other waterborne paint collected by the Resene PaintWise service (www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm) is diverted into covering graffiti with tens of thousands of litres donated free of charge to tackle the tagging throughout the country. Further allocations of paint go to a range of community groups to help them with their arts activities, repaint their premises and much more.

And you can help. By bringing back your unwanted paint and paint packaging to the Resene PaintWise service, it can be redistributed to community groups, reused and recycled.

So next time you are in the mood to decorate, clear the clutter first. Start with those unwanted paints in your garage that are gathering dust. Round them up, bring them into the Resene PaintWise service available at more than 40 Resene ColorShops nationwide and give them a new lease of life.

And while you're at the store, check out some of the sumptuous and exciting colours from Resene's The Range 2008. You'll see many of the colours represented within the pages of this magazine, and some inspiring ways to use them. After years of our interiors being fairly neutral, we'd like to encourage you to embrace the latest trend towards stronger colour – to feel comfortable while you read our 'feel-good' issue. Happy reading!

The Resene Team



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credits

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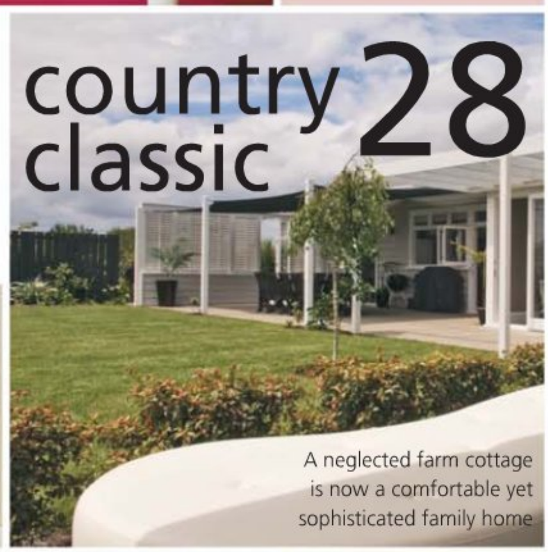
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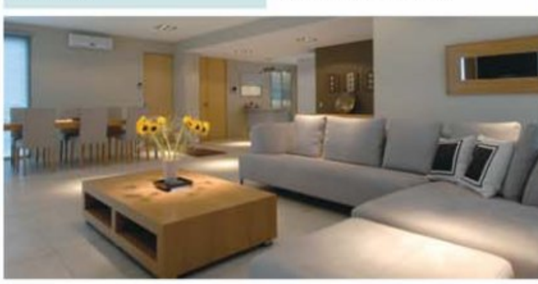












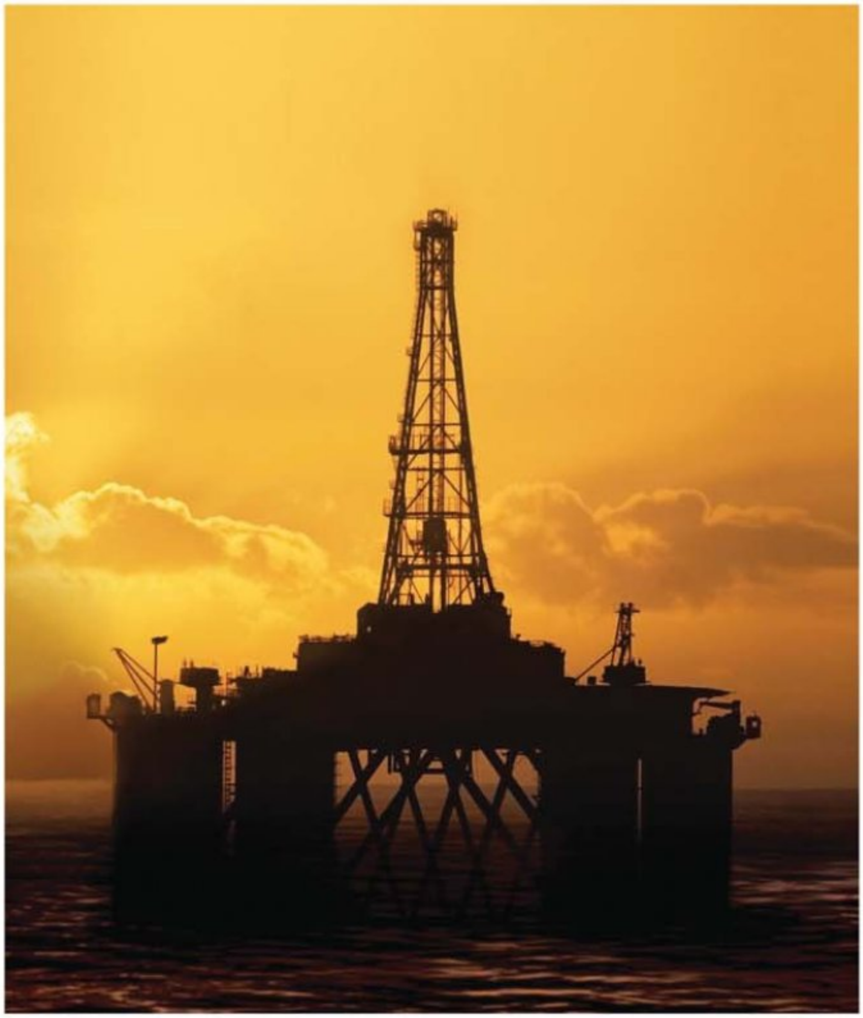








RUNNING OUT OF TIME...



The world's supplies of raw materials are slowly but surely running out. We can't replace them. We can't grow them. We can't clone them. Once used, there will be no more.

Wood, however, is infinitely renewable. In fact, it's the world's most renewable and environmentally friendly raw material.

That means that, no matter how much we use, we can always replace it. In fact, we can go on growing as much wood as we like, for as long as we like.

Which is very good news for us and particularly good news for the planet.

styling: Homebase and Living Edge
words: Sharon Newey



living room revolutions

Bright, fun, dynamic, luscious – change out the personality of your living room to suit your mood or the season.





Resene Encore



< Resene Lipstick is a fun backdrop for this warm and daring look, by Homebase. The artwork was custom-made for the space by Christina Melchior and is a reasonably affordable way to get art to match your interior scheme. The butterfly cushion and horse lamp add playful, quirky touches while the different textures (the soft cushion against the glossy side table) give contrast and interest.

^ The same furniture but a completely different look, with Resene Wild Thing used for this fresh setting of yellow and greens, again by Homebase. The cushion was just $20 and the glass bottles were bought on sale at Nest for $10 each. The most expensive component is the Puppy by Magis, from ECC Lighting & Living ($229 for the large size).

Resene Quarter Spanish White

Resene Wild Thing









^ A stunning cotton fibre Chrysalis arc light throws a sprinkling of light and shadow and picks up the metallic flecks in Resene Ricochet. The very crisp black oak Atlanta coffee table is softened by a rhythm of curves and circles throughout this thoroughly modern setting – in the shape of the lamp shade, the arc of its arm, the curves of the ABS Pantone chair, the silver globes and the patterning on the wire tray. All furniture, accessories and styling by Living Edge.









^ Against a backdrop of Resene Livewire, this classic setting using red, gold and black has an enticing wintry appeal. While the low Petra chair has a contemporary feel with its wide seat and no arms, it blends well with the Toulon antique-look hand-painted Oriental chest of drawers. Gold candlesticks and a gold-framed mirror complete the look. The linen cushion is hand-painted. All furniture, accessories and styling by Living Edge.

fresh and fun

Changing the look of your living area doesn't have to involve buying a load of new furniture. As interior designers Anthea Baker-Shreeve and Ingrid Lavelle from home-staging company Homebase (part of the Property Profilers network, see right) have shown, you can keep the same furniture but easily change out the wall colour and accessories for a completely new look.

Says Anthea: "If you spend your money investing in good quality furniture that is reasonably timeless, you can then easily change the look with paint and accessories."

She suggests working in a restrained palette of no more than three colours, especially if you are using a strong colour like Resene Lipstick. She and Ingrid used the simple neutrals of black and white (from the chair and lamp) with the pink, and introduced greens to go with the Resene Wild Thing. Because the glass-topped side table is a neutral material, it doesn't count as a 'colour' in the scheme. If you were using timber furniture, however, you would need to factor that in as a colour.

They suggest using different shaped and sized cushions to complement one another.

The designers chose these colours to inspire others to experiment with strong shades. "The trend for neutrals and tone-on-tone schemes has been around for so long now, it would be good to see people being more adventurous with colour," says Ingrid.

When gathering accessories and furniture to use in their home-staging business, Anthea and Ingrid often commission artworks to match. "But you can easily make your own artworks, whatever your level of talent," suggests Anthea. "You can simply buy three Resene testpots, paint three small square canvases and hang them vertically or horizontally."

"Or cover the one in the middle with wallpaper or fabric," suggests Ingrid.

"You could even use a bit of Resene Wasabi and replicate the pear artwork we've used here," says Anthea.

keep it simple

Any interior looks best when tightly themed, a sentiment echoed by the designers at Living Edge. As not only retailers of furniture and accessories, but as house-dressers for showrooms and houses for sale, they have a fair bit of experience at putting together appealing interiors.

In the two settings created by Living Edge for *Habitat*, each has a strong theme – one classic and one contemporary. They are also tightly colour schemed – one in red, gold and black; the other in silver, white and black.

The use of threes when it comes to colour and accessories is not an accident. Three (or any odd number) is always an effective grouping when used to accessorise an interior, for example, the three gold candlesticks used in the last setting.

presentation … and more

Homebase is part of a network of companies allied to Property Profilers, a service which critiques a property and advises on how to best prepare it for sale. The report not only includes details on home-staging, redecoration and refreshing, and open home presentation but also recent property sales data and explanations of sales methods.

It includes information on a particular property target market, and how to appeal to that market, says Christine Neil of Property Profilers, and is often best commissioned six to 12 months before putting a property up for sale.

"It's not a cushion-fluffing exercise but a comprehensive report on a number of things. We have a database of services and products, like a walking home show, including a great deal for clients on Resene paint and home-staging companies like Homebase," she says.

The service can also be used effectively when renovating, for those who want to balance their own needs and tastes but also want to ensure they're not undermining a future house sale.

Christine explains a common scenario where a young couple buy in a family-oriented area, for example one with a good school zone, then proceed to convert bedrooms into large entertaining areas. When it's time to sell, the house is therefore less appealing to its target family market.

The report can also indicate where best to spend (ie not over-spend) money when renovating.

Property Profilers is mainly Auckland based at present but is extending its network into a nationwide service by the end of the year. Visit www.profilers.co.nz.

Resene Starbell

testpots



^ i'll drink to that

Iittala has created the universal drinking glass. Called Ote, meaning 'grip' in Finnish, the Aleksi Peräiä-designed range comes in three forms to fit perfectly in all-sized hands. Crafted to be as good to use as they are to hold, Ote is sure to become a design classic. This glassware embodies Iittala's ethos of creating lasting everyday design to combat the phenomenon of throwawayism.

Priced from $42, Ote is available in a range of natural mix-and-match colours. For details, contact IMO, 09 373 4081.

easy on the eye



Using fractions and multiples of whites and neutral shades is a great way to create an appealing tonal scheme. And following on from the popularity of neutral paint colours such as Resene Sisal, Resene Napa and Resene Tea, Resene has added four strength variations of each of these sought-after shades to the new Resene Whites and Neutrals flat chart. This chart is a subset of The Range Whites and Neutrals, and is a handy reference to the most frequently chosen Resene whites and neutrals. The new chart is available at your local Resene ColorShop or you can order it online from www.resene.co.nz or www.resene.com.au.

Resene Napa



^ a matter of intelligence

The stylish and quietly understated roller blind has always been a fashionable choice, but good looks aside, the reason for the huge upsurge in popularity is due to new intelligent fabrics and a contemporary colour palette. Window Treatments NZ use the world's best roller blind fabric by French company Mermet. The breakthrough in roller blind fabric technology began when Mermet invented a transparent sunscreen fabric that could manage the effects of sun, heat and privacy while preserving a view to the outdoors. Now these screen fabrics can reduce energy consumption by up to 33% and block up to 96% of UV rays.

For a free quote call 0800 36 36 39 or visit www.window-treatments.co.nz.

Resene Rhapsody

how delightful! >

New Zealand fashion designer Andrea Moore and interior design incubator JOUGdesign have combined their talents to create the Delightful light shade to complement any contemporary living space. Designed with a minimalist approach, its clean lines create a bold statement. The launch shade features a striking floral pattern in red on a white background. And every six months, Andrea will select a new fabric for the next incarnation of this must-have light shade. Each shade comes in a beautifully crafted art box with a light holder unit, wiring and a ceiling rose sourced from Italy. At $495, the Delightful light shade is available online at www.delightful.co.nz and at selected stockists.





Resene Honeymoon

< blocks of colour

Stevenson has recently expanded its range of stocked DryBlock Architectural Masonry products. Homeowners can now choose from three off-the-shelf shades – Fire Ash, Kohl and Pumice – with others available to order. For those wanting a painted or plastered finish on their blockwork, DryBlock Plasta is now also available ex stock. Both Stevenson products feature unique DryBlock technology that greatly enhances the weathertightness of your walls.

Visit www.stevenson.co.nz/home/ for further details.

Resene Pearl Lusta

Resene Brownie Points

sitting pretty >

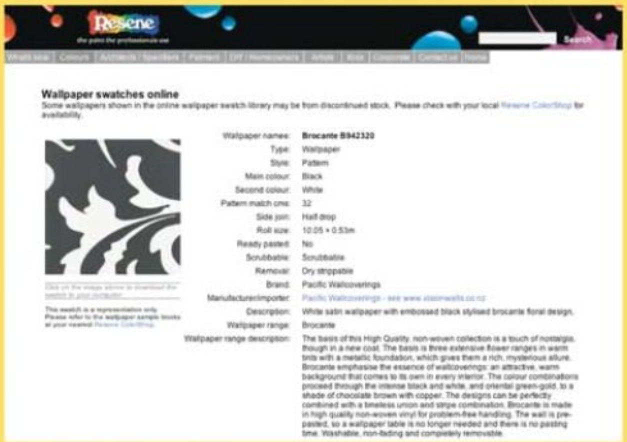
Full, rounded forms and soft, flowing lines characterise the Agape Pear series, designed by Patricia Urquiola. This collection of wall-mounted ceramic fittings was inspired by the shape of this curvaceous fruit. The Pear series is available in white fire clay in dual colour or screenprinted, patterned versions. The use of two colours was devised to highlight the plasticity of the forms and visually enhance the curves of the washbasin. The suspended WC is fitted with a sprung hinge, allowing the lid to be lowered gently. Visit www.matisse.co.nz for more details.



in hot water

If you think a spa pool is just too expensive to run, think again. The Hot Spring Portable Spa is, in fact, extremely energy efficient, costing as little as 73 cents a day. Features such as full foam insulation, hydraulically efficient plumbing, specially designed pumps and heaters, and energy-efficient filtration systems, make Hot Spring Portable Spas the most energy efficient on the market, according to recent independent testing. Unlike the old in-ground spas, the modern Hot Spring sits above ground on a deck or patio and is portable. Just fill it with water from the garden hose and plug it into a standard power outlet. For details, call 0800 468 777 or visit www.hotspring.co.nz.

Resene Instinct



^ wallpaper goes virtual

First there was the Resene online paint swatch library, now you can view more than 2500 wallpaper swatches online on the Resene website. The swatches can be downloaded as jpegs so you can save and email them. Search for what you want using the wallpaper name or code, or view a full range by selecting from the wallpaper range list. And to make things really easy, you can even search by colour, pattern and texture. Simply click 'preview' to view a larger sample and swatch information. Visit www.resene.co.nz/swatches/wallpaper.

Resene
Wild Thing



^ perfection in reflection

The new Reflection range of Gas Flamefires from Rinnai combines the latest in technical innovation with the best in contemporary style. The range has an increased energy efficiency rating, letting you effectively heat your home without it costing a fortune.

Rinnai's Reflection range comes in three installation styles to ensure it can work its warming magic in any home: Advance for installation into existing masonry fireplaces, Amplify for floor-mounted zero-clearance installation, and Elevate (pictured) for suspended installation. In order to make a Reflection fire look at home in your place, the three installation styles are available in three colours: pearlescent black, dark bronze and champagne silver.

See www.rinnai.co.nz for your nearest stockist.



Resene
Moonbeam

sure footed >

Feltex has just launched a new range of carpets specially developed for the New Zealand market. Made from 100% pure wool, Feltex Classic Tirano epitomises relaxed style and luxury. With a colour palette of six shades inspired by nature, it features a superior-quality chunky cut-pile yarn and comes with a 10-year Residential-Wear warranty. Feltex Classic Tirano is available at selected retailers nationwide.

Phone 0800 100 008 or visit www.feltexcarpets.co.nz for your nearest stockist.



< inspired by the sea

Lladro bath incorporates the best in Spanish porcelain and designer bathroom fixtures. Inspired by the Mediterranean, the first collection features the Nautilus and Odyssea series. Nautilus takes its name from the sea mollusc replicated in white porcelain, while Odyssea recreates the shell of a sea urchin in alluring matte black. For more information, phone 09 377 7399 or visit www.inovo.co.nz.

Resene
Belladonna

Resene
Ashanti

timeless textiles >

Blurring the line between art and function, South Island-based textile designer Sarah Martin of Rare Edition Designs creates expressive and soulful limited-print-run, hand screen-printed textiles. Her new-season collections are printed on quality linens, hemps and linen-hemp blends, imparting a warmth and richness to the finished items. These include stylish interior and personal accessories such as lampshades, cushions, wall-art panels, fabric-bound notebooks and albums, as well as leather-trimmed handbags and travel wallets. Inspired by what moves her, rather than mass-market trends, Sarah's designs are a blend of classic and contemporary elements.



Visit www.rareeditiondesigns.co.nz for details.



∧ storage supremo

Made in Italy by Zanette, the 'Open' wardrobe system can be fully customised both internally and externally, and is designed to fit any room. Exclusively available from Ashton Grove, Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. For details, visit www.ashtongrove.co.nz.

Resene
Buffalo



∧ all black victory

All-black wallpapers are showing winning form in the design world. Night shades of Tuxedo, Charcoal and Moonbeam are appearing on walls in bedroom and other interior spaces. Drama Queen, from the Vision Glamour collection, brings mood and an element of polish to walls throughout the day and night.

Visit www.visionwalls.co.nz for details.

Resene Altitude

flower power

Roma is the newest concept range from Catalano, Italy, and will fit with any design style. A relief floral pattern is a special feature of the design, however, basins and shower trays are also available without it. Eleven basin shapes or sizes are included in the collection; six can be wall hung or semi fitted and five are counter-top lay-on. Three shower trays have been created with an anti-slip relief finish based either on the floral pattern or a linear rib. The range also has wall hung and floor standing WCs and bidets as well as a close coupled WC.



Call toll free 0508 499 411 or email sales@plumb-line.co.nz for brochures.

Resene Tea



^ flat testpot

Can't be bothered fussing with testpots and brushes? Try out your colour without having to lift a paintbrush. With the new Resene Testpatch, the painting is done for you – just peel off the back of the Testpatch and attach it to the area you want to paint so you can view it at different times of the day. Then peel it off again and relocate it as you choose. Initially available in the top 20 Resene colours, each Testpatch consists of Environmental Choice-approved Resene Lumbersider waterborne satin, printed on sustainable, repositionable self-adhesive stock.

Available from Resene ColorShops.

Resene Tonto

v reasonable rangehood

An innovative and stylish new rangehood is one of the most practical and budget-conscious rangehoods available. Featuring modern minimalist designs in both stainless steel and white, Robinhood's Compact Canopy will automatically switch off in the event of a cooking disaster or fire, preventing flames and sparks from being sucked into the rangehood. A series of multilayered micromesh filters effectively traps grease and a high-performance extraction fan rapidly removes steam, smells and smoke from the kitchen. Combining modern halogen lighting and easy to use switches, Robinhood's Compact Canopy filters are also dishwasher safe. The canopy can either be a visible feature in the kitchen or built into a cupboard above the cook top.

Priced from $159, from leading appliance retailers nationwide.



Resene Bounce

inside out

Bifolding doors are perfect for creating seamless indoor-outdoor flow. Pacific Suite bifolding doors come with a range of great features such as concealed roller gear and optional flat-surfaced sills for easy cleaning; as well as double-glazing and in-frame passive ventilation for added comfort. The Pacific Suite range includes the Foldback® Bifold with door panels that fold open 180 degrees to lie flat against the side of the house; the Euroslider™ which features special externally sliding panels to ensure greater weathertightness; and the Eurostacker which eliminates the need for conventional bottom tracks and rollers. For more information, visit www.fletcheraluminium.co.nz.

i see red

The Resene paint colourspace has expanded again with the introduction of a double-strength magenta tinter. As a result, new reds have been created for The Range 2008, allowing for a greater selection of shades. Not only has this highly concentrated tinter widened the choice of reds available, but it has the added advantage of reducing unwanted tinter by-products in the paint to provide a more durable coloured finish.

timeless timber >

Crafted from a solid piece of 'rediscovered' aged timber, the Gallery Side Table, from the Gallery range, encapsulates the raw beauty of nature. Each piece is handcrafted and reflects nature's own unique signature as well as the inherent strength and beauty of the preserved native timber. The limited-edition Gallery range is available through Davies Furniture, www.daviesfurniture.co.nz or the designmade showroom, phone 09 909 6198.

Resene Supernova



coffee in bed >

Resene Cargo

Fairydown has expanded its coffee-themed range of Espresso feather and down blankets with the addition of a new dark-charcoal hue. This versatile blanket adds a warm extra layer during winter or makes an ideal alternative to a summer duvet. Machine-washable and generously sized to tuck in or drape over the bed, the Espresso blanket now comes in six fashionable colours, with matching pillowcases also available.

For information, phone 0800 936 223 or visit www.fairydownbedware.co.nz for your nearest stockist.





< wash day gets better

Resene Comfort Zone

Robinhood's new Supertub Laundry Workstation is a multi-purpose, readily assembled work bench designed specifically for the laundry, but not just for washing up. It is ideal for confining mess and great for cleaning mucky shoes, sports equipment, paint brushes, messy craft things, washing large oven dishes and even bathing the dog!

Featuring a deep tub, ample bench space and designer sliding drawers, the Supertub Laundry Workstation solves the problems of mess, inadequate storage and bench space. It also brings a designer look to the laundry with its modern gooseneck tap.

Available nationwide from leading retailers for around $1399.



Resene
Double Spanish White

^ a taste of Italy

The popular and stylish Veneto terrazzo paving range has been given a refreshing makeover. The new range is characterised by subtle textures and the introduction of seven contemporary colours, including the natural tones of soft creams and whites as well as darker greys and charcoals. Stevenson's Veneto terrazzo pavers are available in 500mm x 500mm format with a matching bullnose paver of the same dimensions.

For more information, visit www.stevenson.co.nz/home/.

Resene
Escapade

v feel good factor

The new Rockcote Resene Monotek System lets you customise your home's exterior using your choice from a wide range of textures and finish effects. With options to suit both modern and traditional homes, the system is applied by registered Rockcote plasterers throughout New Zealand to ensure the best quality finish. See the Resene The Range Textures & Specialist Effects fandeck for Rockcote Resene Monotek system topcoating options. Fandecks are available for viewing at Resene ColorShops.



living smarter

With homeownership costs continuing to rise, we're all looking for ways to reduce the bills. Your Guide to a $marter Home has a range of no- or low-cost tips to help you reduce your household's energy use, saving you money and making your home healthier – all while helping the environment. It covers topics such as insulation, heating, appliances and lighting, as well as buying a home, building and maintenance. Phone 0800 242 243 for a copy of the booklet or visit www.smarterhomes.org.nz for more details.



words: Alice Leonard

country classic



A neglected farm cottage is transformed into a comfortable yet sophisticated family home.





Leonie and Dave Jamieson bought a neglected farm cottage in Karaka and within six months they'd transformed it into a stylish and comfortable family home.

When the couple first met, Leonie was working in Auckland and Dave was based in Hamilton. "We chose Karaka [a rural area south of Auckland] because it was about halfway between the two cities," Leonie explains.

It's a very pretty area, the tone of which is set by the various stud farms surrounding the Jamieson's property – notably Eric Watson's 37ha stud, called Westbury, across the road.

Leonie, an experienced home renovator, has always loved old houses. "Their history and design details – like the high battened ceilings and wooden floors – mean that old houses always have a special feel to them. One of my favourite things is to take an old unloved building and bring it back to life with a renewed sense of purpose."

"Some people did think we were mad taking the project on," Leonie says. "But it's what I love to do, so I didn't see it as stressful at all. Well, the re-piling did turn out to be a bit of a drama, and we've sworn never to do that again!

"Was it worth it? Absolutely – we love the result."

Builders worked on the house from top to bottom for six months, effectively stripping it to its bare bones, and then re-building it again. Internal walls were moved and removed, and tiny windows replaced with expansive bifolding doors and windows to let in sunlight and fresh air. And to achieve the easy flow between inside and out which never concerned our forebears, but which has become an essential part of contemporary living.

Both David and Leonie work from home. Leonie runs her kitchen and bathroom design consultancy von Sturmer Design; Dave, a former DJ and TV personality, now concentrates on voice-overs and corporate videos for his company Mediactive. They have two children, daughter Morgan-Skye (6) and son Campbell (2).

A new wing containing a studio, office and guest suite was added at a right angle to the main house. Expansive decking links the new wing to the main house, creating a north-facing outdoor living area that's sheltered from the prevailing wind by the now L-shaped house. This

Resene Black White

Resene Merino



area is perfect for the children to play in and for alfresco dining, with bifolding windows from the kitchen making entertaining easy. On a clear day, there's a view of the Manukau Harbour, and by night the city lights, most notably those on the Sky Tower, take centre stage.

The interior is a gracious blend of traditional and contemporary styles. The walls in the guest ensuite, for example, are lined with traditional-look tongue-and-groove panels, to match the original lining in the main bathroom.

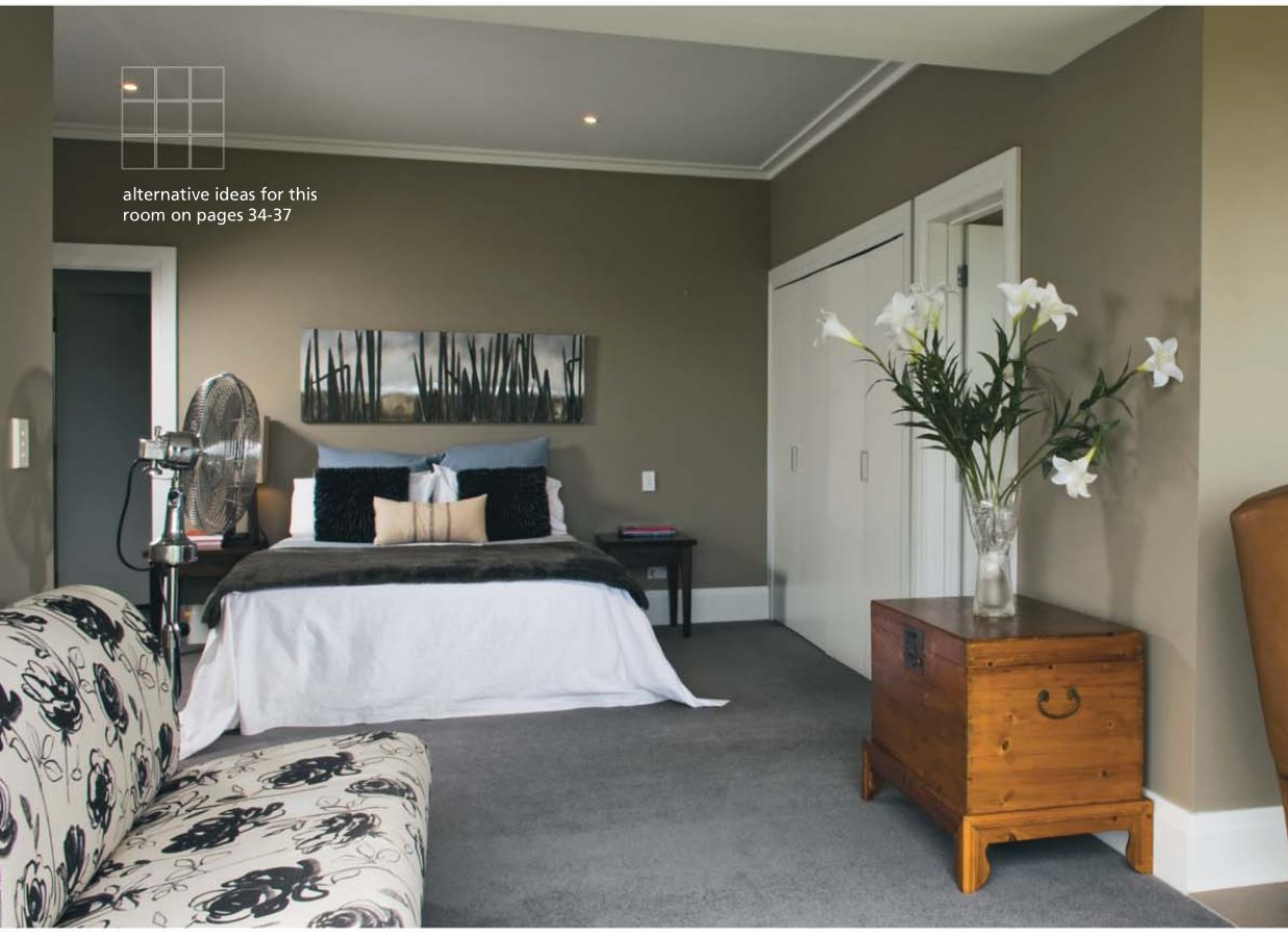
The floorboards in the main house are original – because there was a lot of variety amongst them, according to when they were installed, they're all stained a rich chocolate hue. This serves to unite the various types of flooring, and provides a warm base for the interiors.

Leonie chose paint colours which were sophisticated and would complement, rather than overpower, the leafy rural views which the property enjoys in every direction.

"One of my favourite things is to take an old unloved building and bring it back to life with a renewed sense of purpose."

"In every aspect of the design, I've gone for a balance of city chic and country style. I definitely didn't want a cottagey look. We love living in the country, but we still enjoy the benefits of a city lifestyle too, and my design reflects that blend of lifestyles."

She chose Resene Half Tea and Resene Black White for the walls of much of the main house, with Resene Eighth



alternative ideas for this room on pages 34-37

Masala in the office wing, and a special blend of Resene Grey Olive and Resene Sisal in the master bedroom. Campbell's room has Resene Coastal Blue from the Resene Karen Walker range, and the 3m-high ceilings and trims throughout are Resene Black White.

On the exterior, Resene Eighth Stonewall is used on the weatherboards, with Resene Black White window surrounds, french doors and pergolas. Resene Fuscous Grey is used on the doors and trims.

Leonie describes her design style as "classic with a twist".

"The house needs to look great, of course, but it also needs to work really well as a home, especially with children, so practicality and flow are also very important."

Two of the practical aspects incorporated into the renovation are in the master ensuite: a double shower means that one can be left at the right height for the children, and a bath that's accessible from both sides makes easy work of bathing small children.













In the kitchen, Leonie – who began her career as a kitchen designer – included no cupboards in the design, opting instead for banks of large drawers (17 in all) because they're so much more practical and easy to use.

She also loves her butler's pantry, "for everything you want to be able to close the door on!" As well as an extra sink, the pantry stores small appliances, bulk food items and large serving dishes.

Leonie chose paint colours that would complement, rather than overpower, the leafy rural views.

Once the house itself was renovated, Leonie and Dave turned their attention to landscaping the 1ha property. They've planted a shelter belt of cypress lealandii along the two back boundaries, and are pleased to see it growing at an impressive rate. The property was already fenced with the same classy black post-and-rail fencing used at Westbury. Red robin hedges, also used at Westbury, have been added. The rest of the planting is a dynamic mix of natives and lush evergreens, many of them subtropicals.

"I particularly like the look of big-leaved plants like pukas," says Leonie.

The family has lived here for four years now. The children attend the nearby private school (and preschool) Strathallan and are thriving on their country lifestyle – with fields on every side of the house, and a view of the neighbours' mares and newborn foals from the living room window.

"We were visiting some friends in St Heliers the other day and I said to Morgan, 'We could live in the city, you know.' She reacted quite strongly and said it was much too noisy and busy in the city!" **H**





Get the exterior look with Resene Sonyx 101 semi-gloss tinted to Resene Eighth Stonewall.

Flooring: original floorboards, dark stained

Resene Black White



Office wing walls: Resene Eighth Masala

Get the bedroom look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to a blend of Resene Grey Olive and Resene Sisal.

Resene Grey Olive

Kitchen benchtop: Stonex and stainless steel

Get Campbell's bedroom look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to Resene Coastal Blue from the Karen Walker range.

Resene Half Tea





Kitchen cabinets: stained oak and lacquer

Ensuite: Kaldewai bath, Paini Cox tapware, Duravit Starck II toilet

Resene Coastal Blue

Get the interior look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to Resene Half Tea and Resene Black White on walls and Resene Lustacryl in Resene Fuscous Grey on doors and trim.

Resene Stonewall



Resene Fuscous Grey

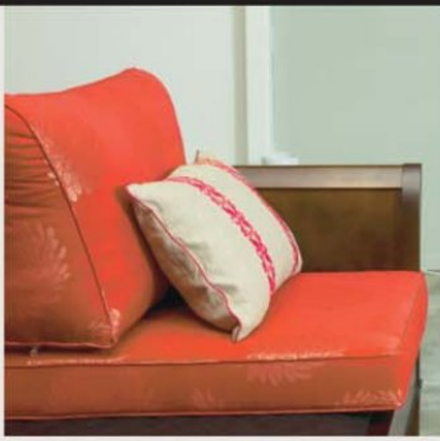
on the following pages, find two alternative style suggestions



^ Moody yet feminine touches are used to make this bedroom a romantic space.



Resene
Vista White





<

Seneca
www.seneca.co.nz
with cushion in Raviola Frambrosia fabric

in Mimi Fuschia fabric

Atelier
www.atelier.co.nz

<<

Trenail Timberside chair

Rose & Heather
www.roseandheather.co.nz
09 520 4442



<

Newport queen-sized bed (dark)

Rose & Heather
www.roseandheather.co.nz
09 520 4442

>

black lampshade chandelier

Rose & Heather
www.roseandheather.co.nz
09 520 4442



>

Amalfi Stormcloud carpet

Sallee
www.sallee.co.nz
09 309 5733



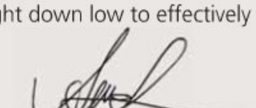




Annette Larsen

interior designer for Rose & Heather, suggests this alternative scheme:

This classic yet contemporary look uses a background of warm neutrals on the walls (Resene Kubrick) and floors and silver and white bedlinen. A splash of quirky colour is added with the pink chair fabric and pink detailing on the cushions. The clean architectural lines of the Newport range of furniture from Rose & Heather gives a modern look, while playful and romantic elements are bought through in the sheer black fabric of the pendant lampshade chandeliers and the stylised floral motif of the fabric. In any bedroom scheme, the bed is the largest element so has to be the 'hero'; here that has been accentuated by bringing the light down low to effectively frame the bed.



mobile 021 621 373, email annette@roseandheather.co.nz



^ Soft colours and fabrics give this bedroom a breezy, romantic feel.



Resene
Quarter Parchment

Resene Double Arrowtown

Resene Double Tea

Resene Penglacial Blue

Resene Cut Glass





throwover bedspread

Jack Pine, colour Misty
Unique Fabrics
www.uniquefabrics.co.nz

<<

Tiffany Chair with natural timber legs

Forma
www.forma.co.nz

in Chivasso Hot Spots

Unique Fabrics
www.uniquefabrics.co.nz



five-drawer chest in Limewax Cream

Virtue Furniture
www.virtuefurniture.co.nz



wallpaper

Flaxweave 21909 from Vision Wallcoverings Premium Textures book
www.visionwalls.co.nz

available from Resene ColorShops

>

queen-size bedhead and low tail end in Limewax Cream

Virtue Furniture
www.virtuefurniture.co.nz





Bunting Delta voile

James Dunlop Textiles
www.jamesdunlop.co.nz

>

bedside lamps
43BC/beech, TL/Shade
in Stone Linen

Mayfield
www.mayfieldlamps.com.au





small bedside cabinets with one drawer in Limewax Cream

Virtue Furniture
www.virtuefurniture.co.nz



Ali Thornicroft

interior consultant for Maclean Design Studio, Dunedin, suggests this alternative solution:

When creating an interior scheme I like to use an item as inspiration for the colours and textures. Here, the colour choices flow from the bedspread fabric. Wallpaper is making a comeback and is very practical, giving a robust surface for wear and tear and, if textured, disguising any irregularities in the wall finish. Here it is used as a feature wall behind the bedhead to give depth to the colour scheme and complement the other walls in Resene Double Tea and Resene Penglacial Blue. For added warmth and texture, a luxurious faux fur throw has been draped on the bed. Hard flooring and the pale furniture add to the breezy, fresh feel of the room.

phone 03 477 5111, email enquiries@macleandesign.co.nz,
web www.macleandesign.co.nz

words: Alice Leonard
pictures: Frances Oliver



testpot art

Tracy Rasmussen Artist

An ordered mind and a passion for colour has seen artist Tracy Rasmussen use Resene paints in some extraordinary works.

Artist Tracy Rasmussen's twin passions are order, and colour… in that order. And she goes to considerable lengths to celebrate those qualities in her artworks.

For her *Alphabet of Colour* works, for example, she bought a testpot of each colour in the Resene The Range 2004 and 2005 fandecks and let the names of the paints determine the final artwork: each paint colour appears in alphabetical order according to its name (ie, all the paints starting with 'A' are in the first column, in alphabetical order, and so on).

The impetus for the colour chart works was a 2004 commission for the Columbard 'corporate crash pads' apartment building in Auckland. Resene paints were being used on the project, and Tracy was inspired by the colour swatches.

Each testpot was used to paint one little rectangle of colour on to the plywood board which was her canvas. Each little rectangle had to be masked off and painted. The painted areas were then given about 10 coats of polyurethane, "for gloss and physical depth".

Resene Clockwork Orange

Resene Sisal

Tracy is a perfectionist with lots of patience: the Columbard commission involved 145 works, and an artist with less determination could easily have been tempted to choose a less laborious methodology.

After that commission, Tracy continued with the theme. Her piece, *The Alphabet of Colour 2004,* was a finalist in the 2004 Wallace Art Award, and was snapped up on TradeMe by a London-based collector.

Tracy (27) enjoys the results of her endeavours, and although it definitely helps that the art is saleable, to her the works are not the main event.

"The work is a tangible memory of the process," she says, "but it's the system I created, and which created them, which is the real artwork."

Paint colours are a perfect medium for Tracy, who loves to work with everyday and domestic items.

In her 2002 work *Bookcase* (made during her studies for a Bachelor of Visual Arts at AUT; she graduated in 2002), the raw material was 654 second-hand hardcover books, selected for their size and colour, not their content. The main work has the books in a white bookcase, organised into bands of colour, and alphabetically by author within their colour groups. Smaller works in this series are variously based on the number of pages in each book, the first and last sentences in the books, and authors' names.

Given her strong sense of order, it's not surprising that Tracy has always had a hankering to be a librarian. And it may yet happen – she's very versatile.

She has spent the past three years in Sydney, where she was visual merchandiser for the funky and avant garde Swedish design store kikki.K.

She also gained a floristry qualification in Australia – so she could better express and enjoy her love of colour through flowers – and now, back home in Auckland, is studying French with a view to living in France. She's also waiting to hear the results of her application for an internship at the Tate Modern gallery in London.

Wherever Tracy heads to next, she'll no doubt be amassing influences and material to categorise and catalogue into intriguing works of art. H







words: Anya Kussler

see the light

From natural to artificial, from bulb to fluorescent, how do different kinds of light affect the way we perceive colour?

Have you ever wondered why your stunning new chocolate brown jumper suddenly adopts an off-putting muddy hue when you try it on in front of your bedroom mirror? Or why the red wall in your lounge looks burnt orange at night?

And why your Resene ColorShop staff will advise you to paint your testpot of colour onto a piece of card or firm paper and move it about the room you intend to paint so that you can see it under different lights? Also, to view your sample at night under artificial light as well as during the day?

To understand the intricacies of colour, the first thing to remember is that we can only see different shades if they are illuminated. In order for them to be anything other than degrees of black and white, light has to hit the surface and be reflected back.

The brightness of that light is measured in units called lumens – the more lumens, the brighter the light. One lumen is equivalent to one lux, which is the brightness of four full moons. Humans need a quarter of a lux to be able to see at all.

In the daytime, under the bright light of the sun, we see the world around us reflected in combinations of the three primary colours of light: red, green and blue. All shades are created from these three hues. When equal amounts of red, blue and green are reflected, the brain perceives the result as white; when they are absent, we get black.

natural versus artificial

So, when are the colours we see 'real' and when are they not? In an ideal scenario, 'true colour' is the shade closest to that reflected directly by the sun, which contains the full spectrum of the rainbow. We can achieve this by using as much natural light as possible in our living, working and commercial spaces. In this country, where we are blessed with lots of natural light, we do just that: so many modern buildings now have glass fronts or skylights, compared to older ones.

Having said that, there are numerous artificial light sources available to us today, with many more in the process of being developed. These are used to compensate for lack of natural light or to achieve deliberate colour effects. As a general rule of thumb, warm light (pink, red, yellow…) accentuates warm colours, while cold tones (blues, greens, white, grey…) enhance colder tones. According to lighting design engineer Robert Victoriano, of Philips Lighting, it all depends on which light is right for your purpose.

While red, yellow and blue are the primary colours for items like paint, the primary colours of light include red and blue but replace yellow with green.

the FACE rules

Robert says it's easy to identify what you need the light to achieve, by following what he calls the FACE rules. They are:

F stands for function. What do you want to achieve with the light? Do you want to bring out the best in the colours of your interiors and sofa cushions? Do you want to light up an entire sports field? Does the light have to be practical, for example, in a study?

A for ambience. This is particularly important in hotels or restaurants, where you want to create a certain atmosphere to draw in customers; or in retail, to make merchandise look appealing and expensive. Or, perhaps you want to create a relaxed mood in a casual living area. Cool, blue light will enhance an indoor pool, while warm pinks will set the scene in your meditation room.

C for comfort. Do you see a glare? Does the light feel too hot?

E for economy. In other words, what is the most affordable lighting solution for your needs?

artificial light sources

Incandescent light, which Thomas Edison invented around 1879, is where an electrical current heats a thin filament in the bulb, and so produces light. Halogen lights are a type of incandescent but have a more directed light so are better for task lighting.

Pros: Incandescent light bulbs have perfect colour rendering, are cheap to produce and work well on alternating or directing a current. They are commonly used in households, commercial set-ups, portable lighting, for decorative purposes and in advertising lighting.



incandescent
(warm light)



halogen
(most accurate)



compact fluorescent
(cool light)

Resene Dynamite, Resene Poprock, Resene Spanish White, and miniature Vitra chairs from World Deluxe seen under various lights at Philips Lighting.

www.lighting.philips.co.nz

Resene Dynamite

Resene Pearl Lusta

Resene Poprock

Cons: Incandescent lighting is hideously expensive as a lot of power is required to produce the energy – one light bulb only lasts roughly 1000 hours. The heat it generates makes them too hot to touch, and so they are dangerous in certain situations.

Incandescent light bulbs are gradually being replaced in many applications by sources that produce more light but use less electricity, such as fluorescent lighting…

Fluorescent lighting uses electricity generated through gas discharge – in a nutshell, a tiny amount of mercury in a phosphor-lined glass tube emits ultraviolet (UV) light. The phosphor absorbs the UV light and re-emits it as light the human eye can see.

Pros: Compact fluorescent lamps are super energy efficient – they produce a quarter of the heat per lumen of an incandescent light bulb and last about six times longer (about 6000 hours).

Cons: To the conventional eye, fluorescents sometimes seem too bright and appear to make colours look unnatural and garish. To combat this, opt for the yellow-tubed fluorescents (such as 'warm white') instead of pure white ones, or an extremely low-wattage lamp. Also, fluorescent light cannot be used in dimmers.

Light-emitting diodes (LED). This will be the most practical light source in the years to come, according to Robert Victoriana. Generated by a semi-conductor, it's the light you see in flashlights and cell phones.

Pros: LEDs are five times as power-efficient as fluorescent lighting but there is a catch – at present, the microchip inside the LED light only emits light in one direction. It doesn't reflect it back, which means it doesn't allow us to see colour. The solution, says Robert, is to design lenses that go on top of the LED and disperse the light.

when light tricks our sight

Most of us will have experienced the navy sock/black sock scenario. You take a pair of apparently black socks out of the drawer, then realise later that one of them is actually blue. Don't worry, it doesn't mean you're colour blind – it's a common phenomenon called sample metamerism.

The reason for the optical illusion is that the wavelength emission between various light sources, such as incandescent and fluorescent light, differs. Incandescent light bulbs emit very few short blue wavelengths, which makes it hard to tell whether a colour we see in such light is dark blue or black. Fluorescent light, on the other hand, emits more short-wavelength light, and so it's easier to distinguish the two colours.

On the flipside, you can also have two identical colour samples that look vastly different when viewed under different lights. This phenomenon, called illuminant


incandescent
(warm light)


halogen
(most accurate)


compact fluorescent
(cool light)

metamerism, explains how retailers (or home owners) can use light to present their product (or your interiors) in the most flattering light.

There are various other 'metamerisms'. One is observer metamerism – the fact that individuals perceive colour slightly differently. Another is geometric metamerism – the different appearance of colours when seen from different angles, distances and light positions. Did you know that one reason men and women often see colour differently is that the distance between a woman's eyes is usually slightly less than a man's?

Metamerism also affects the way we view paint colour charts, which is why Resene uses actual Resene Environmental Choice approved paint on colour charts, such as The Range fandeck series. The next time you have a colour chart and a testpot that you think don't match, try wandering outdoors – you'll often find they are a perfect match and it is just the interior lighting that is making them appear different.

Whatever your gender or domestic lighting arrangements, colour perception will always be a very personal thing – time to rethink the brown jumper and the red wall, perhaps. **H**

top tip

Wherever possible, it is best to develop a lighting plan at the same time as your paint scheme. For example, if you decide to paint any of the rooms in a dark colour, you are likely to need more lighting than if your walls were pale and would therefore reflect the light.

Resene Poprock

incandescent
(warm light)



halogen
(most accurate)



compact fluorescent
(cool light)




STRATEGY 6825
KOVACS
DESIGN FURNITURE
KOVACS.CO.NZ

words: Sharon Newey
pictures: Mark Heaslip

create a pretty posie

With the fashion for flower arrangements tending towards more carefree styles, creating a posie doesn't require a degree in engineering.

Flower arranging is very different than the days when large sculptural flowers were carefully constructed in impressive arrangements. Today, we like our flowers more casual and carefree – like you've just walked in from the garden with a bunch of dewy blooms and haphazardly placed them in the nearest vase to hand.



Of course, as with many things, that seemingly simple effect isn't as easy as it looks. But with a few tips from friendly florist Michelle Henry of Roses in Mt Eden, Auckland, you can create pretty posies like these.

Today's fashion is for less greenery and more floral elements. In fact, these posies have hardly a leaf in sight and are made up of quite cottagey blooms such as hydrangea, sweet pea, dahlia, Singapore orchids, and bougainvillaea.

Says Michelle: "People want more romantic, feminine and nostalgic arrangements. Like those that Grandma used to have. It follows the current trend for vintage fashion and handcrafted homewares."

Because of the casual, slightly mismatched look of the posies, you don't have to be too careful about colour, says Michelle. "Anything goes with this style. There are no rules." For a vase, she suggests either something brightly coloured, like these Rice glass vases from Germany, or something a little old-fashioned, like cut glass or even an old jug. Narrow-necked vases are best for this type of arrangement as they allow the posie to splay out into its spherical shape. H

Resene Sargent Pepper

Resene Woodstock

Background colour Resene Moonbeam. See overleaf for more tips on how to treat cut flowers.

Step 1 >

Collect a selection of pretty flowers, including one type (you'll need two or three blooms) that will be used as the base or anchor bloom. Hydrangeas are good for this, as is any other larger bloom like peonies, full-blown roses, dahlia, tulips or other spring bulbs. Or you can use foliage, such as magnolia leaves, as your base.







Step 2 ^

Holding the base flowers firmly in one hand, start to thread the other flowers in a random pattern between the base flowers and through your hand. Trim the stalks after threading if it makes handling easier. Keep building up the flower arrangement until you have a quite tight sphere of flowers.

< Step 3

Tie a piece of twine around the flower stalks so that the arrangement holds its shape. Place into your vase of choice.

V Three alternative posie looks, in German-made Rice glass vases from Roses.



Florist Michelle Henry.



words: Mary Searle
tips: floral designers Megan Dickinson, Auckland, and Helen Hebberd, Nelson

flower power

Some more tips to keep your cut flowers looking good.

> Start by purchasing good quality, fresh flowers. If you're picking flowers from your garden, try to do so in the cool of morning or after sunset. Select flowers in bud rather than fully open.

> Remove all leaves that will appear below the water level, otherwise they will rot and pollute the water. Re-cut the stems on a diagonal using a sharp knife or scissors, and plunge them into fresh, cold water. Allow them to sit in the water for at least an hour before arranging. By cutting stems on a diagonal, you expose the maximum surface area to take up water.

> When selecting flowers, work in odd numbers, for example, three, five or seven of each type of flower. If you cannot decide what combination of flowers to use, just purchase one type of flower in bulk. One item en masse is foolproof.

> Certain flowers last longer in water than others – alstroemerias, lilies and tulips will look good for ages, whereas roses can go off quickly if not looked after, and irises don't last long at all.

> Like people, different flowers have their own particular quirks. Some, such as peonies and water lilies, close as night. Others, like tulips and anemones, will continue to grow after being picked and will need to have their stems trimmed every couple of days. And others, gerberas for instance, will turn to face the light.

> Combining the vase with the flowers is very important. The colour, form and height of the vase will determine what flowers you can use in it.

> Rather than dotting the different flowers evenly throughout the arrangement, group types together in bunches, two or three at a time.

> Be aware that different colours create different effects. Blues are receding colours and consequently are not good at night. Reds and purples have a feeling of opulence, yellows are bright and cheerful while greens are restful.



> A monochromatic colour scheme is very dramatic, yet soothing, as there's not too much for the eye to take in.

> Add different textures to the arrangement for more interest – rough, smooth, fluffy, shiny, twiggy and prickly. Rose hips, seed pods, fruit and gum nuts can also look good.

> Keep the water topped up daily and change it every second day. Keep flowers out of direct sunlight and ensure the room is well ventilated, especially in summer, to prolong the life of the flowers.

Resene Geneva

Resene Sargent Pepper











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words: Mary Searle
picture: istock



are you covered?

The house burns down due to an electrical fault, a storm takes off the roof or a pipe bursts while you're on holiday. Does your insurance policy cover such things? It might not.

Home insurance. It's one of those phrases that may make you cringe – premium payments, forms, claims, excess. But one thing is for sure, you need it. And not just the bare minimum – enough to replace your home and everything in it.

There are always different options to consider when you're purchasing insurance. Don't scrimp on the research or the premium or you may find there are some circumstances for which you are not covered.

1 Acts of God – this is an old term meaning unforeseen events that could not be attributed to a person who could then be held liable for the damage caused. A storm could be considered an 'Act of God' but nowadays insurance policies can cover damage caused by a specific event such as a storm or unforeseen and accidental damage caused by wind, rain or trees blowing into your house.

2 Maintain your house. Chris Ryan, CEO of the Insurance Council of New Zealand, says your insurance will cover you for all sorts of accidental damage, but he says it's vital to ensure you maintain your home. "If you have a leak that is left unrepaired for years and the house incurs gradual damage as a result, this will not be covered by your policy."

Also, if the wiring of your old villa hasn't been upgraded for years and causes a fire, you may not be covered. This is a very grey area where no two cases will ever be the same. Essentially, it is about knowledge and intent – if you knew the wiring was dodgy, then your insurer may not cover any fire it causes.

Or if you know that the gum tree in the back garden has unstable roots, do nothing about it and then it falls on the house, your insurer is within their rights to reject a claim.

3 Beware when renovating. Another pitfall home-owners can fall into are when changes are made to the house. You should always notify your insurer if you're undertaking renovations – especially if they're structural.

4 Vet your guests. Chris Ryan also points out that damage wrought by people lawfully on your

Resene Escapade

Resene Midwinter Mist

property may not be covered. For example, if you have a party and one of your guests gets drunk and starts smashing things, aside from the friendship being over, your insurance may not cover the damage.

5 Notify your insurer of any prolonged absence. If you're going to be away from your house for a long time, and this absence is longer than the period stated in your policy, then your house cover may automatically reduce to fire damage only. Just notify your insurance company to ensure you have the correct cover while you are away.

> You should always notify your insurer if you're undertaking renovations – especially if they're structural.

6 Take out replacement house insurance, specifying the square metre floor area. This means if your 250m2 house is destroyed, your insurer will pay for a new 250m2 house to be built. Another option is market value insurance, where you are insured up to the value of your house. The pitfall here is when you claim after a total loss, you may not have enough money to build an entire new house. Only having enough money to build half a house is not a pleasant thought.

Also be aware that if you own an older house, you may not be able to get replacement insurance. Or you may only get it after supplying certain reports, for example to show that the electrical wiring is in good condition.

7 Be as accurate as possible when listing your contents. When you buy contents insurance, the insurer will often provide a list of typical household items so that you can work out the value of your own contents based on the furniture, appliances, accessories and personal effects. It pays to be as accurate as possible so you'll be compensated appropriately.

It's also a good idea to keep receipts and serial numbers, and take photographs of your possessions. Some people even make a video recording of their entire house. This all helps at claim time.

8 Be aware that when it comes to the contents of your home, cheaper policies may depreciate the value of your possessions at claim time, meaning you can't afford to replace everything. Others will only cover items younger than 10 years. Although you may make small savings on your premiums, you may find yourself seriously out of pocket after a major incident.

Also know that some contents insurance policies include your carpet, whereas some don't.

9 Consider the excess amount carefully. When buying insurance, you'll most likely have a choice of the excess amounts. This is the amount you pay for each claim you make. Usually it's around $100, but higher excesses mean lower premiums. Although this sounds like a good idea it means the excess applies to each claim you make.

10 Be honest. Remember, an insurance policy is a legally binding contract. It demands honesty. If you lie or mislead your insurer, your policy could be declared void, and you would not get any payout from your insurance company. Failure to tell your insurer everything they need to know to accurately assess your risk may jeopardise your insurance cover.

And remember, it's not all a one-way street. If you don't feel your insurance company has treated you fairly, you can take your case to the Insurance and Savings Ombudsman at no charge to you. Alternatively, you can go to the Disputes Tribunal or, as a last resort, the District Court. H



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Graeme Rose
Managing Director



words: Sharon Newey
pictures: Frances Oliver



the collecting queen

Entertainer Jackie Clarke displays her passion for collections and Kiwiana in her Auckland home.





The recent trend for minimalist interiors went completely unacknowledged by entertainer and singer Jackie Clarke. Her Grey Lynn house, shared with film-maker partner Grant Lahood and their two young sons, is the antithesis of the look, thanks to their passion for collections and Kiwiana.

A specially built glass case houses Jackie's collection of snow domes, the walls in one of the sitting rooms are nearly covered by Grant's collection of Mt Taranaki images (he was raised in Taranaki) and above the fireplace is an array of fake stuffed animal heads. There are carved wooden Maori heads, ethnic masks, ukuleles … the lists go on. There is even a collection of Spanish bullfighting images and relief carvings which Jackie defends as being very Kiwiana, reminiscent of all of those mock Spanish small town coffee houses with swirling stucco walls.

Jackie believes her passion for collecting began in childhood, when she used to help her Aunt Marg at her flea market stall. "I was fascinated by the discovery of all of these treasures, essentially other people's junk.

"Also, as a twin [with sister Robyn], I like multiples. Not just a few but many. I think a handful of snow domes would look naff but a collection looks fine." Then later, when touring with bands like Marching Orders, the Netherworld Dancing Toys and When the Cat's Been Spayed, she would gravitate to the local second-hand stores and buy pieces for her collections. "Now, we have friends who are props buyers for movies and they come across all sorts of things we might like."

> "I think a handful of snow domes would look naff, but a collection looks fine."

Collecting has also become easier, thanks to the internet. "I have to be careful I don't become a TradeMe junkie. Brown paper parcels turn up on the doorstep and Grant wonders what on earth I've bought now."

Her favourite collection is relatively small, a trio of special edition musical Jim Beam bottles fashioned to look like three famous Maori chief figurines.

The collections are not, of course, simply about the things. Jackie has a constant reminder of the places she has been and the people associated with various pieces.









With a family of her own, home has become more important to Jackie. "When I travel these days, I spend a lot of time dying to get back home, away from those motel rooms."

Home is a villa that Grant and Jackie have owned for a number of years and have renovated a couple of times – once to add a new kitchen and dining area, and more recently to add a main bedroom and family living area. It has certainly provided more wall space to display the collections.

And work these days is still the rich variety it has always been for Jackie. Her latest project is very dear to her heart – a CD of original songs put together with fellow musicians, guitarist and drummer Wayne Bell and songwriter/singer Callie Blood.

The trio has been making music together in different guises for many years but finally got The Darlings together five years ago, performing alternative country renditions of New Zealand songs. Now they have launched a CD, *The Cicada Sessions,* which is available in music stores. Jackie describes it as "pop with a twist; a little bit Dixie Chicks". It has already attracted some great reviews.

"I have to be careful I don't become a TradeMe junkie. Brown paper parcels turn up on the doorstep…"

"I have spent so much time singing covers and now I finally get to sing originals," says Jackie.

Other projects Jackie has been involved in include the musical *Sweet Charity,* and TV's *New Zealand Idol* and *Here To Stay,* in which she traced her Scottish ancestry (Jackie is also part Samoan and part "non-specific Pakeha mix"). She also sings covers with her other band, Lady Killers, is a regular at Christmas in the Park events and made a documentary about war songs with partner Grant, which aired on Anzac Day.

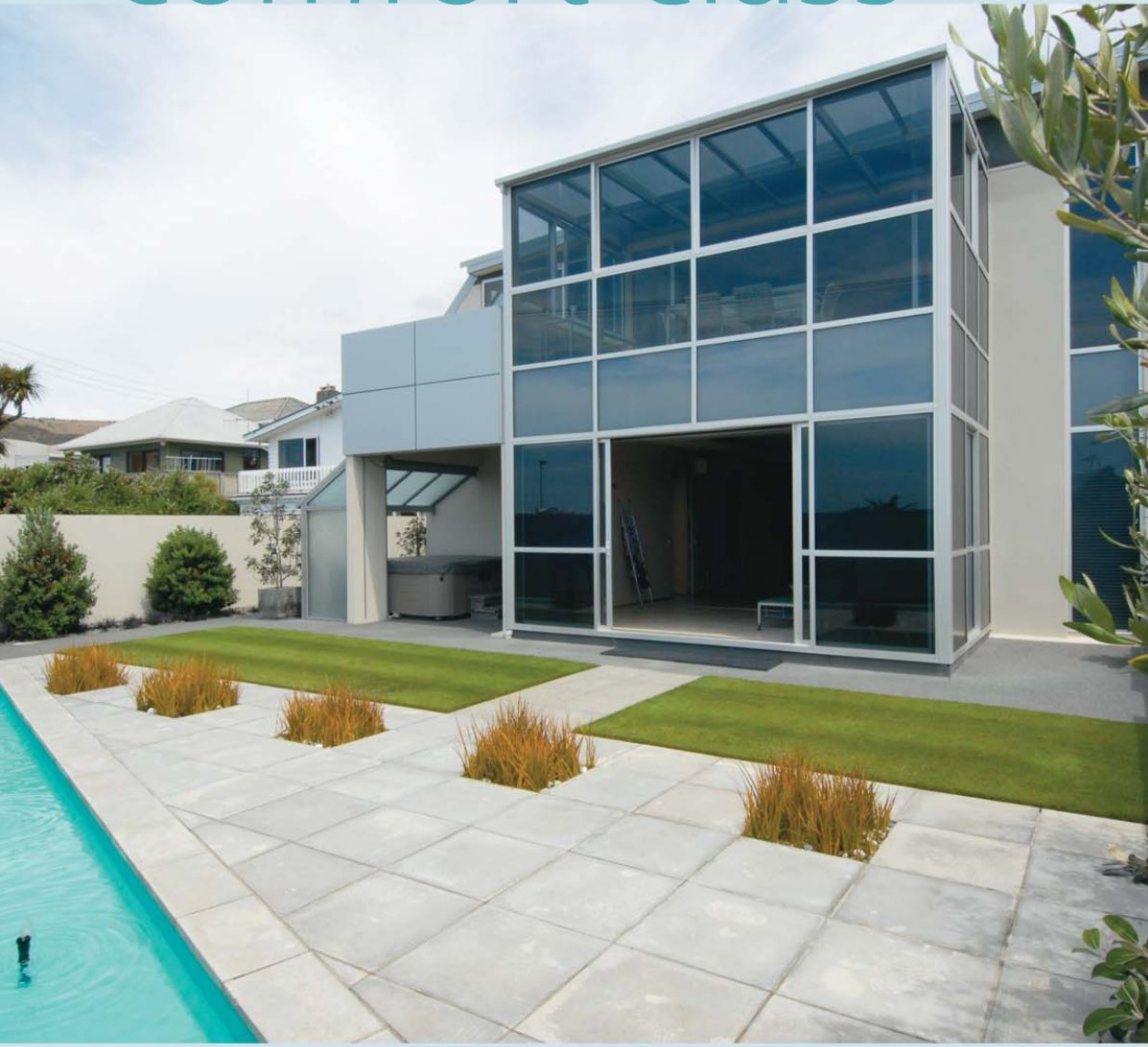
Just so long as any of the work doesn't take her away from home for too long – from Grant, the boys Stan and Ernie, and her collections! H

Resene Hot August

Resene Soapstone

words: Liesl Johnstone

comfort class



pictures: Juliet Nicholas

Turning a large modern house into her own personalised haven was a challenge handled with aplomb by designer Mary Roberts.

When Mary Roberts first laid eyes on plans for her own most recent residential project in Christchurch's seaside village of Sumner, excitement was tinged with panic.

A seasoned interior designer who's highly aesthetically attuned after many years working in fashion and cosmetics internationally, Mary is not often fazed. Once started on a project, she possesses an unshakeable faith in her own vision for interior spaces. (That's even in the face of tradespeople saying certain unprecedented wishes might be in their too-hard basket.)

But when husband Peter, an accountant, showed Mary the engineer's drawings of this home and its aircraft hangar-like dimensions, she did feel a tad daunted. How could she make such an impressively hard-edged, modernist structure into a personal haven and retreat?

A few months of intensive thought and project management later, it became clear any uncertainty had been unfounded. Mary has achieved a home that possesses its own brand of intimacy in spite of its big, bold spaces.

It wasn't as if the couple was accustomed to small rooms. One of their previous houses spread itself over 650 square metres of floor area on Christchurch's Mount Pleasant; another, a Mykonos-inspired dwelling on an incredibly steep section, was also large, and set over three levels. Like their previous dwellings, this house is wonderfully coastal, with its main living areas upstairs, seemingly suspended above the beach.

Their house's position – one road's-width from sand – is naturally its defining feature. Therefore the design's starting point was a given: optimising the wonderful sea views. In the conservatory dining area, for example, double-glazed windows and ceilings open up to the view and sky. It's a favourite space for friends and visitors.

Mary felt her challenge was to make the house feel welcoming and cosy, despite the open outlook. To this end she's found that the modern minimalist look can endow comfort to a level that traditional or embellished luxury often doesn't.

This is not a place where you'll spy any cabriole legs or precious antiques. Mary has opted for elegantly simple, large-scale square and rectangular furniture. Everything is fabulously functional, but every piece is also absolutely true to style, even down to a large macrosuede grand-daughter's toy box.

Resene Cut Glass





alternative ideas for this
interior on pages 66-69







"Some houses, regardless of budgetary restraint or even the lack of it, can feel really uncomfortable and as if you shouldn't really sit down or touch anything. Working out how a home is going to be actually used and designing for comfort is incredibly important," says Mary.

Continuous use of the same materials in the same finishes – namely concrete, iron, glass and blonde oak – and themes results in the sort of comfort that emerges from sophisticated restraint. The Sallee carpet used throughout is a chocolate-earth colour, with sumptuous purple overtones.

Mary's made great use of nature's warmest comfort colours throughout.

Mary takes her design philosophy straight from nature. "The floor is your ground. I start with the ground and build upwards. The walls [some in square oak panels] are like the trees, and the ceiling's your sky."

Although the floor area Mary had to work with was large for a domestic space, she has cleverly divided it into "rooms for a purpose". The two upstairs dining areas are

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human-sized rather than overwhelmingly large. The same is true for the square-edged Poggenpohl kitchen, which has intimate views of the nearby green hillside dotted with cottages and houses.

Sure enough, Mary carries the comfort through by ensuring the barstools are an exercise in seated luxury with their square cushioned tops. They invite guests to rest and dream while talking to the cook or gazing beyond windows to Scarborough's slopes.

Mary envisages actual events when planning rooms. Downstairs, for instance, there's another large living space with its own kitchen, designed with large parties in mind. Everything's been second-guessed, down to where different age-groups will sit and what their needs and wants will be.

Although the floor area Mary had to work with was large, she has cleverly divided it into "rooms for a purpose".

Furniture, whether fixed or introduced, is all generously proportioned to suit the home's scale. Upstairs the couches can comfortably seat 14; the master bed's a Californian king size, and the office desk's a large, rectangular table.

Mary's made great use of nature's warmest comfort colours throughout. Resene Fudge, Resene Congo Brown and Resene Gargoyle are repeatedly employed.

An eye-catching feature wall seen from the entranceway

is a custom-made stainless steel mesh panel, which visually repeats metal used on the windows and stair balustrade, and introduces intriguing textural detail.

As for themes, Mary decides on these at the outset and never veers off course. "In my last house I had white marble, lacquered black furniture and curves everywhere; however in this one I've built upon the idea of the strength of the square and the drama created by geometric recesses, special lighting and contrasting textures."

Each detail accounts for as much planning and sourcing as larger, more obvious features. Even tiny handles on the smallest drawers are metallic squares.

If a piece of furniture Mary already owns isn't going to work with a house's themes, colours, style or scale, she simply edits it out into storage.

"Once I've finished, everything stays. I don't re-do my interiors or tweak anything later," Mary says. "Although I do ensure the furniture can be reconfigured in different rooms to fit different purposes and events as they happen."

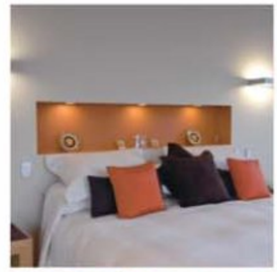
Certain constants are maintained, of course – photos of loved ones in her bedroom and dressing room, vases of her favourite flowers, pleasing textures, fabrics and colours.

"I like to feel that I can come home, flick on music and lights and enjoy my surroundings as a sanctuary... an escape from a busy, noisy, complicated world."

"And it's incredibly important to feel that although a place is designed in detail, it can be enjoyed casually to the full. There's nothing better than fish and chips and beer on the coffee table and a room full of friends watching sport in total comfort – even spread throughout the room at 4am in sleeping bags."

It's Mary's recipe for contented living – rigorous, detailed planning which leads to laid-back enjoyment of a sumptuous, comfortable result. H





Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to Resene Fudge, Resene Congo Brown, Resene Gargoyle and Resene Red Red Red.

Resene Red Red Red



Timber furniture: in light oak designed by homeowner Mary Roberts and Brad Mawson of Urban Furniture, Christchurch

Resene Beethoven

Open-tread steel stairs, underlit by blue LED lights

Get the exterior look with Resene Sonyx 101 tinted to Resene Tea and Resene Gravel.

Resene Hillary





Carpet: Impala in colour Tango, from Sallee

Lounge suite: Miramar range with length adapted, by David Shaw, in Macrosuede, colour Buff

Resene Lemon Twist

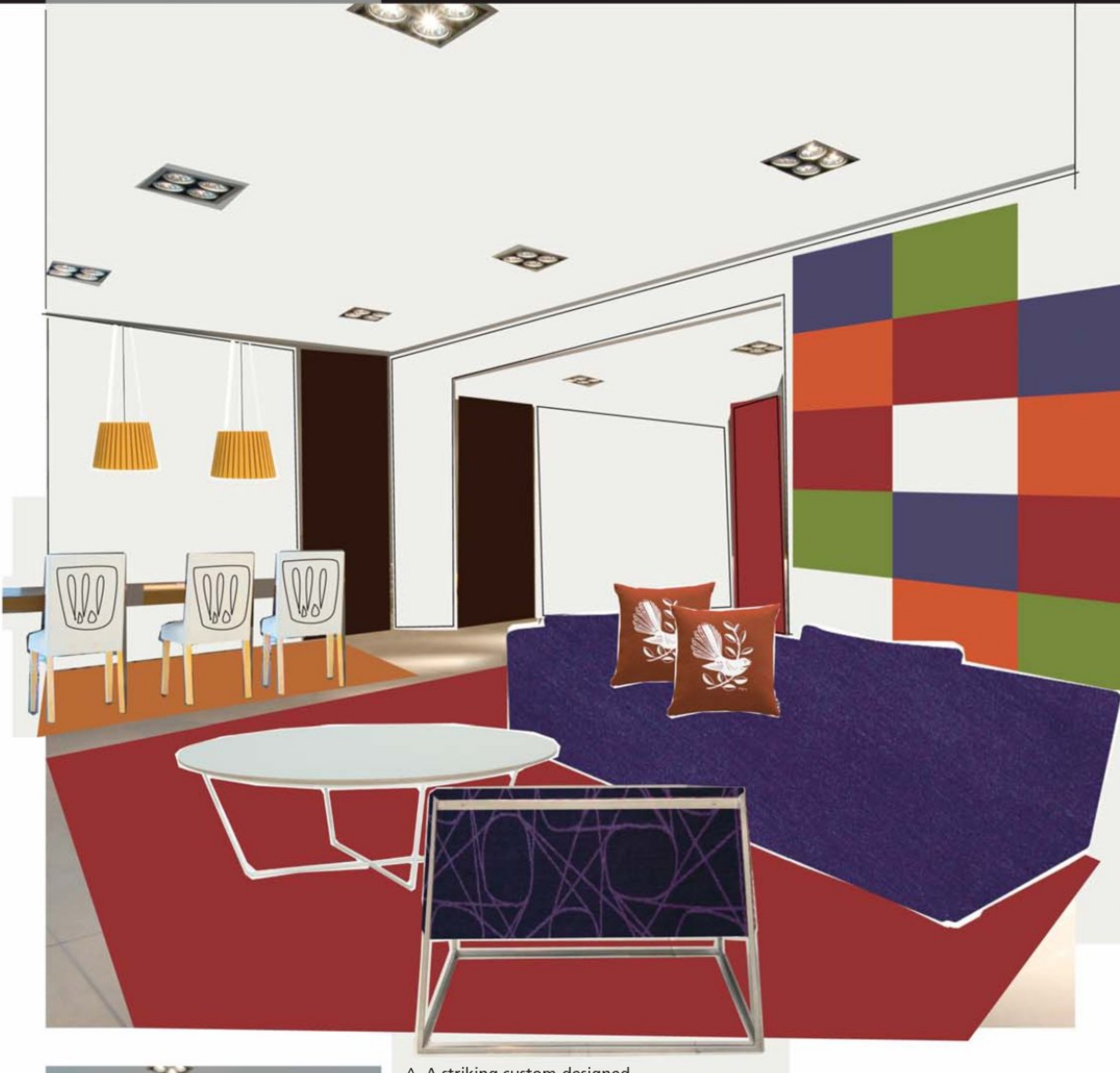
Bathroom vanity: opaque glass in stainless steel frames, made by Urban Furniture. Autumn brown glass top by Glasstech

Resene Gargoyle



Resene Fudge

on the following pages, find two alternative style suggestions





^ A striking custom-designed feature wall underpins this contemporary scheme.

Resene
Black White

Link coffee table in white

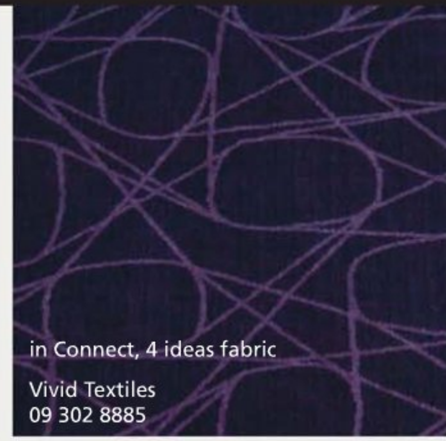
Simon James Design
www.simonjamesdesign.com





Pendant Tank Light, orange

Simon James Design
www.simonjamesdesign.com



in Connect, 4 ideas fabric

Vivid Textiles
09 302 8885



<

Single Edge Chair

Forma
www.forma.co.nz

>

Fantail cushions

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Resene Pacifika

Resene Kamikaze

Resene Wicked

Resene Pohutukawa



in Call, 5 Anytime fabric

Vivid Textiles
09 302 8885



Bealey three-seater sofa

Simon James Design
www.simonjamesdesign.com



Liz Kerby

of Workspace Design, Auckland, suggests this alternative solution:

This fresh, modern and clean space draws on my work with commercial interiors where the colour palettes used are often bolder. As a showcase to Resene paints and to add some fun, I've created the feature wall as a grid of colour rather than just one colour. They are strongly local colours, reflecting the tones found in our flora and vegetation. I've also used locally made furniture and accessories. It's quite a challenging space colour wise and would not be to everyone's liking! With such a large space, the various areas have been defined with floor rugs, and the internal doors should be taken to full height to optically maximise the stud height.



mobile 027 218 5608, email liz@workspacedesign.co.nz





^ Defined spaces gives this room flexibility.

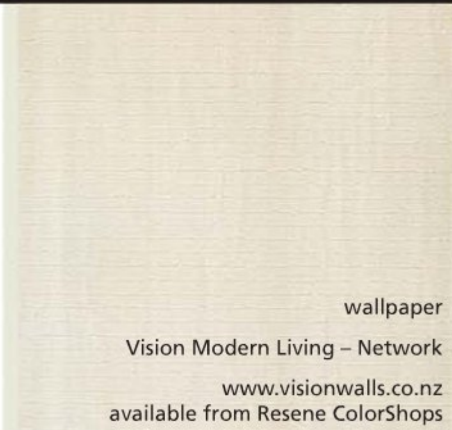
Resene
Quarter Parchment



Sud chairs

Forma
www.forma.co.nz
in Tribecca 14 Onyx fabric

Roylston House
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wallpaper

Vision Modern Living – Network

www.visionwalls.co.nz
available from Resene ColorShops



tall red glassware by Katie Brown

ZeaYou Gallery, Taupo
07 378 1361



Resene
Triple Hillary

Resene Eighth Putty

Resene Rambler

Resene Raging Bull



Shantung shelves

Freedom Furniture
www.freedomfurniture.co.nz
0800 373 336



wallpaper on feature wall

Vision Premium Texture
Collection – Hatch

www.visionwalls.co.nz
available from Resene ColorShops



Green glassware by
John Penman

ZeaYou Gallery, Taupo
07 378 1361



Sud four-seater sofa

Forma
www.forma.co.nz
in Abode Viva Red Earth fabric

Warwick Fabrics
www.warwick.co.nz



Nord coffee table

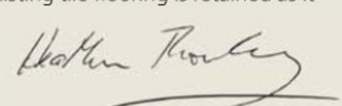
Forma
www.forma.co.nz



Heather Thorley

interior designer of Colour Options, Paraparaumu, suggests this alternative solution:

The space is very horizontal, large and open. The revised room design introduces some vertical elements and divides the space with a movable storage unit, while still enabling it to be opened up into a single space for large-scale entertaining. The muted tones of the textured wallpapers and mainly brown and black furniture is offset by occasional colour highlights – for example, the four-seater sofa covered in a large and brightly patterned fabric, the red carpet runner sitting beneath the mobile display unit, and colourful glassware. The existing tile flooring is retained as it is complementary to the overall design.



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don't rush into wall lining decisions

These days, we hate having to wait for things. And achieving the look we want in our homes is no exception.



When renovating, it's so tempting to rush in and start stripping wallpaper and simply painting or papering over your old wall linings without first considering whether you will end up with the finish and comfort you really want.

By replacing, rather than reusing, your old existing wall linings it is much easier to not only get a superbly smooth wall finish but to build in a host of 21st century benefits at the same time, like:

- insulation in the walls to make your home warmer, drier, and easier and cheaper to heat;
- power points and light switches where you need them (you can check the safety of your existing wiring at the same time);
- modern conveniences such as phone, TV, internet outlets, security alarm, and a surround-sound home entertainment system.

Now, if you think that all sounds like too much bother and rather costly, you couldn't be more wrong.

An experienced builder or plasterboard installer and stopper can remove existing wall linings and install new ones quickly and with minimum fuss. What's more, getting brand new GIB® Plasterboard wall linings, GIB-Cove® along with new skirtings and architraves, as well as insulation on exterior walls will cost around just $300 extra per room!

So don't be in a rush to hire that wallpaper steamer for days on end when for a little extra investment you'll end up with a superior finish, as well as a warmer, drier home.

With well-considered choices, you'll get the home you really want.

drier with GIB Aqualine®

Developed specifically for use in areas subject to high levels of damaging steam, condensation, water leaks and splashes, GIB Aqualine® has a water resistant core containing special wax polymers to help prevent moisture penetration and damage caused by moisture and steam.



quieter with GIB Noiseline®

Whether reducing the amount of noise entering a room or preventing it escaping, a double layer of GIB Noiseline® (in conjunction with other measures like Pink® Batts® Silencer® insulation) can do the trick. It'll reduce noise transmission between rooms and also between floors in two-storey homes by around 50%!



tougher with GIB Toughline®

Certain areas of a home are subject to greater wear and tear. Repairing damage to wall surfaces and linings can be minimised by using GIB Toughline®. It's much tougher than GIB® Standard Plasterboard due to a special high-density core reinforced with a fibreglass mesh.



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get some help

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words: Jo Gault

keeping out the cold

The right insulation can transform a cold, draughty, damp house into one that's warm and dry – and it will dramatically shrink your power bill.

Insulation is not something we have been very diligent about in the past. Sure, we're a tough lot, but the benefits of effective insulation – warm, dry homes and lower energy bills – are encouraging people to begin to take it seriously.

The Government is also taking insulation seriously and in October 2007 introduced new minimum standards regarding the insulation of properties. The biggest change is the requirement for double-glazing in all new buildings and major extensions in the South Island and Central Plateau area of the North Island. This alone will mean 30% less energy is used to keep these homes warm.

If you're about to renovate an old villa, you'll probably find it has no form of insulation at all. But don't despair: renovation is the perfect time to install insulation. An uninsulated home will lose about 42% of its heat through the ceiling and roof, 24% through walls and 12% each through windows and draughty doors. Surprisingly, only 10% is lost through the floor. Based on those figures, it makes sense to look at insulating ceilings first.

There are several methods to choose from. If you're doing the work yourself you need to look at blanket segments or rolls of insulation, either in fibreglass, polyester or wool. Fibreglass, made from 80% recycled glass, is probably the preferred option for its effectiveness and value for money. The only downside is that it can cause irritation to skin, eyes, nose and throats, so always use gloves, a mask and goggles when handling it.

Polyester, wool or a mixture of the two also come in handy rolls to run out in a roof space or cut into segments for fitting between framing timbers. They tend to cost more than fibreglass and can be slightly trickier to cut but won't cause skin irritations.

When buying these products be aware of the R value, which is the rating materials are given for their insulation ability – the higher the rating the more effective the insulation. It's not quite as simple as that, however. Depending on where in the house the insulation will be used and also where in New Zealand you live, there will be different R value requirements. A full list of minimum and best practice requirements can be found at www.standards.co.nz.

If you have a low-pitched roof, you may be wondering how on earth you can fit insulation material into such a tricky space. This is where loose fill insulation is perfect, as it gets blown in by machine and will fill every nook and cranny.

Material choices for this method include macerated paper made from recycled newspaper, with a fire retardant added. This is the cheapest option though it has a couple of downsides, such as moisture retention if there's a leak and it can settle over time, thereby losing some of its effectiveness.

Mineral wool is more expensive, but unlike the paper won't create dust or settle and isn't a fire risk. Estimating how much material is needed to fill the required space and create the right R value is critical. It's a job that needs to be carried out by a professional.

It's also worth looking at wall insulation if you're undertaking general house renovations. With timber-framed construction, insulation can be placed within the frame, though you may need to increase the frame size in

Resene Bianca

Resene Billy T

Resene Bluegrass

order to obtain optimum insulation. There are also techniques for injecting water-resistant loose insulation or foam into holes drilled in the inner wall lining or exterior cladding. However this is less reliable because it's hard to assess whether all the gaps have been filled. Definitely a job for the professionals.

Of course, wall linings such as GIB® Plasterboard are a key component in any insulation scheme, and if it's noise control you're after, GIB Noiseline® can be used.

Reflective foil is no longer used to insulate walls (it doesn't meet minimum standards) but is still effective as underfloor insulation, particularly with blanket insulation attached. Like any insulation it needs a perfect fit for optimum effectiveness, so all gaps must be sealed. Due to the possibility of electrical cables running under the floor, the laying of foil insulation can be risky – cabling can be pierced, or if it's incorrectly installed you may end up with a 'live' floor. Hire a professional installer or get an electrician to inspect it.

Expanded polystyrene, which comes in rigid foam sheets, is a popular choice for under concrete floors. It's also very multi-functional and can be used to insulate walls and ceilings. For the more rainy parts of the country, a well-vented underfloor space with an additional layer of polythene sheeting on the ground is effective at keeping dampness at bay – remember, damp under-floor timbers attract fungus.

An uninsulated home will lose about 42% of its heat through the ceiling and roof, 24% through walls and 12% each through windows and draughty doors.

If you're replacing old windows, think carefully about double-glazing, even if you don't live in an area where it's now required. In Europe it's widely used as a form of insulation (triple glazing is fairly standard in some Scandinavian countries) and for noise reduction – you'll find most houses by major roads in England have double-glazing.

Not everyone's budget will stretch to double-glazing, so cheaper options include the obvious, such as heavy, thermal-backed curtains that fit snugly around window frames and pelmets that reduce draughts.

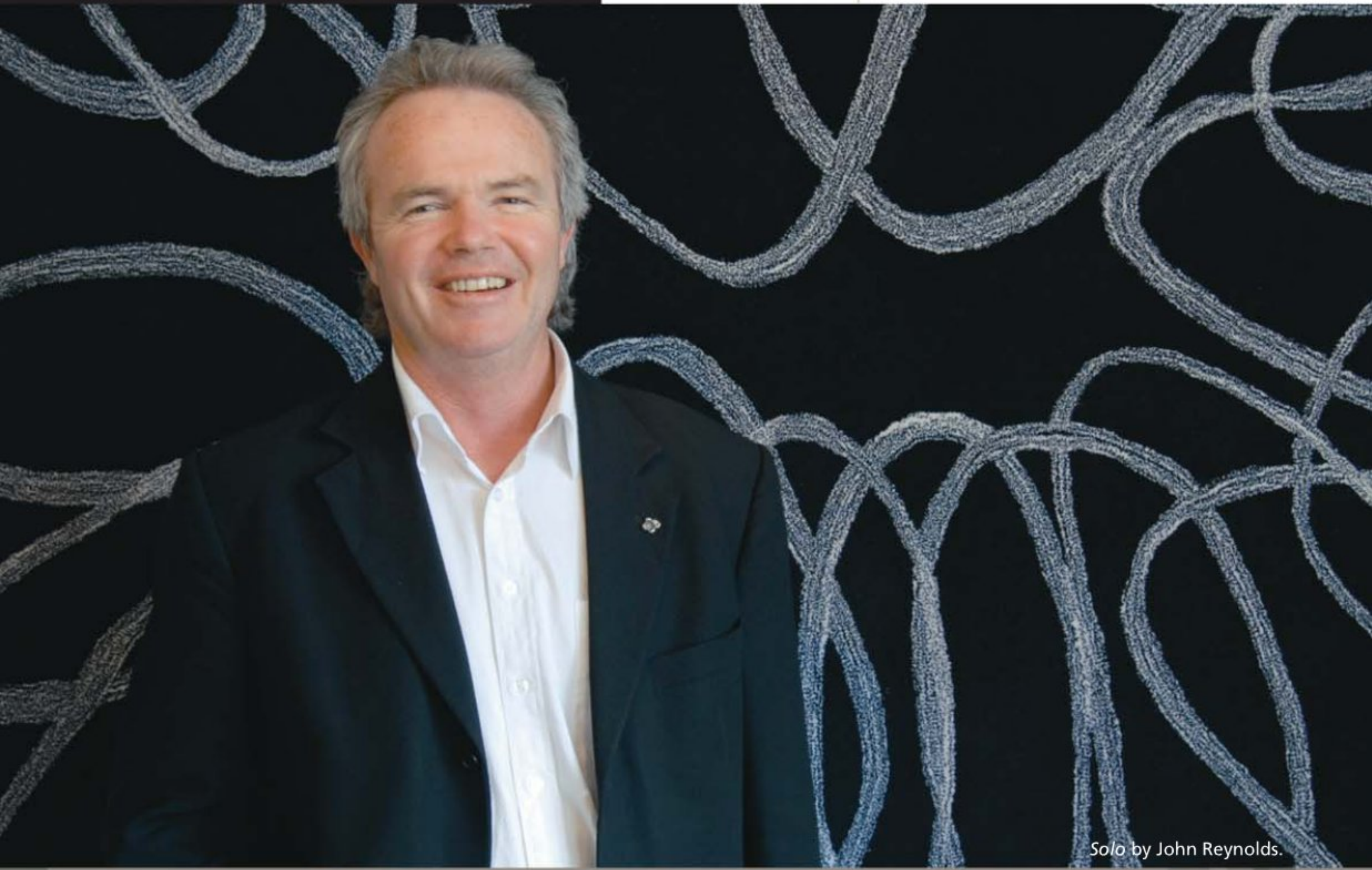
There's no denying that spending money on insulation reaps many benefits. Not only will it give you a warmer, drier home with lower energy bills but it will, according to a recent Otago University study, enhance your overall health and well-being.

To find out more about insulation, take a look at www.smarterhomes.org.nz, www.energywise.org.nz and www.consumerbuild.org.nz. Or for Australia, see www.greenhouse.gov.au/yourhome/. H

top tip

Whichever type of insulation you choose, the objective is a really snug fit, because even the smallest of gaps will significantly reduce effectiveness. For really cold areas, insulate cold water pipes separately (as well as hot water pipes) with special pipe insulation.

words: Rachel Macdonald
pictures: Juliet Nicholas



Solo by John Reynolds.

floored by great art

Hugh Bannerman Rug-maker

Thirty-something years ago, Hugh was a low-country shepherd – one man, a stock saddle and a dog. That, in a way, was his introduction to the wool industry, he says; a real grass roots start.

As he looked for new challenges, he went from working the land in Southland to learning his trade in a yarn dealership in Christchurch, sourcing specialist wools from chosen breeders. From here, his involvement in rugs was a natural progression.

"We were ending up with a lot of redundant carpet yarns, and I suppose I was looking for a way to make them useful," he explains. "The thing is, carpet fibres really don't translate across to rugs – they are two very different colour cultures. The more I thought about it, though, the more determined I was to make a really great Kiwi rug."

Between the industry knowledge he had garnered himself and extensive brainstorming with Wool Research New Zealand, he assembled a short-list of the qualities that might go into such a product. He even came up with a name for his new business – Dilana – a synthesis of his dog's name, Di, and the Latin word for wool.

And there, despite dollops of dedication, the idea almost foundered.

"I got some design ideas together with the help of Wools of New Zealand, and opened a showroom with a workshop above. And nothing happened," he remembers. "Then,

Edith Ryan, who was head of the Crafts Council for many years, offered me an exhibition in Wellington… and every piece sold. The difference lay in promoting a rug as purely practical – neutral, ordinary and suitable for anywhere – or presenting it as a designed object, a piece of art."

This may account for why Dilana's tipping point came when Hugh took space in the Christchurch Arts Centre in the late 1980s.

"Suddenly, we had lots of visitors coming through and were exposed to all sorts of new ideas. And, quite by accident, I was rubbing shoulders with up-and-coming artists who are now some of the country's most celebrated talents," he says. "It was the start of a great chemistry between us: I knew wool and carpet manufacture, and these people were the future soul of the design industry in New Zealand."

From then to now, Hugh's rugs have been a collaboration between household function and great New Zealand art. And that's very much how the artists see it too. Names like Hotere, Frizzell, Peebles, Chilcott, Lyall and Wells have designed not just one work, but whole series, all meticulously replicated in hand-tufted colour. For them, it's simply now a part of their oeuvre.

"Carpet is the medium," says artist Bing Dawe, describing the appeal. "I like playing around with images, and carpet has a nice form. You can re-create a landscape – you can walk in, around and on it."

Hugh himself learnt a lot about form and colour over the years, he admits. The result has been the evolution of his own tastes in colour, which are typically technical in their foundation.

"I don't personally tend to favour any one individual shade; I go more for the harmony of several alongside each other. Any one colour on its own, in a purist sense, can seem lacking without the support of one or several secondary underlying ones," he explains.

"I see black or white as the two simplest choices to use as contrasts. For example, I find it much easier to appreciate the colour value of, say, a rich chocolate brown when it can be measured against black, rather than when it's just viewed on its own. Of course, any other colours can be used as that secondary contrast, and the results can be anywhere from elevating to frankly political."

Naturally, the artists with whom he works are experts in their own palettes and forms, and when a buyer likes those shades and that style, the rug works for them as well as any painting or sculpture might do, observes Hugh.

"Don Peebles, for example, worked with us back in the 1980s and taught us so much about colour and composition," he explains. "And we can now execute these to a really sophisticated level."

It can, however, take forever to get the dyes right. "A lot of Kate Wells' work is particularly tricky, for example," he says. "That's why we end up creating new shades, like the Wells ochre and the Hotere red."

Resene Eighth Blanc

Resene Stonehenge



Stock Take by Bing Dawe.

Clematis by Tim Main.

Such colours as these are now also making the transition into carpets, as Kiwi art underfoot attracts a greater following in the international market and Dilana evolves to take advantage of this new niche.

"Back in 1998, we looked at moving some of our artists towards machine-made rugs and took some Michael Reid and Kate Wells designs to Carpets Inter, which is part of the Tai Ping group. At this point, we were asked to do the Air New Zealand First Class lounges with architect Noel Lane and artist Gavin Chilcott, which is where we first came to the attention of design guru Terence Conran," says Hugh.

"And then, three years ago, we got talking to Denmark's Ege Carpets. We were commissioned to floor the Christchurch Library and asked Bing Dawe to do it – his was the sculpture outside. The only company that could use accurate enough digital technology to weave the eel image he crafted was Ege."

"I don't personally tend to favour any one individual shade; I go more for the harmony of several alongside each other."

The company was intrigued by the design and published it, and the relationship has blossomed since.

"We've met with Ege's directors, and are now feeding some of New Zealand's top artists and our own staff into their system, working to develop our own carpet culture and taking advantage of Ege's manufacturing technology," says Hugh. "And Ege has a show space in Paris, which is where New Zealand woven design is headed next! In a couple of years, we'll have our own top-quality carpet range on the international stage, showing Kiwi artists off to the rest of the world in this amazing medium."

It's not a bad outcome for a Southland shepherd with a passion for design. H



Make-Way by Bing Dawe.



Noa Noa by Gavin Chilcott.



Cloak Over Taranaki by John Bevan Ford.



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The Natural Ergonomic Desktop 7000 is the ultimate in ergonomic design and comfort. The groundbreaking, wireless design promotes a more natural wrist posture and helps relieve pressure from the carpal tunnel area. The high-definition wireless technology also ensures a smoother performance – working has never been so comfortable. RRP: $219 www.microsoft.co.nz/hardware

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There is a Philips Eye-Fi advanced eyecare desklight for any space and for all your work needs, with a wide range of distinct designs, colors and finishes to choose from.

Pantograph comes in a stylish rubberised finish.

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Goldair Heated Towel Rail



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With its sleek mirror finish and premium grade stainless steel, the Goldair Designer Collection of heated towel rails is made for contemporary bathrooms. The distinctive square-rung styling provides even, constant heat for great performance with low running costs and the option to have either 4, 6, 8 or 10 bars. The rails feature concealed wiring and come with Goldair's safety rating certification. Phone 0800 964 963 or see www.goldair.co.nz for more information.

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Aquatica



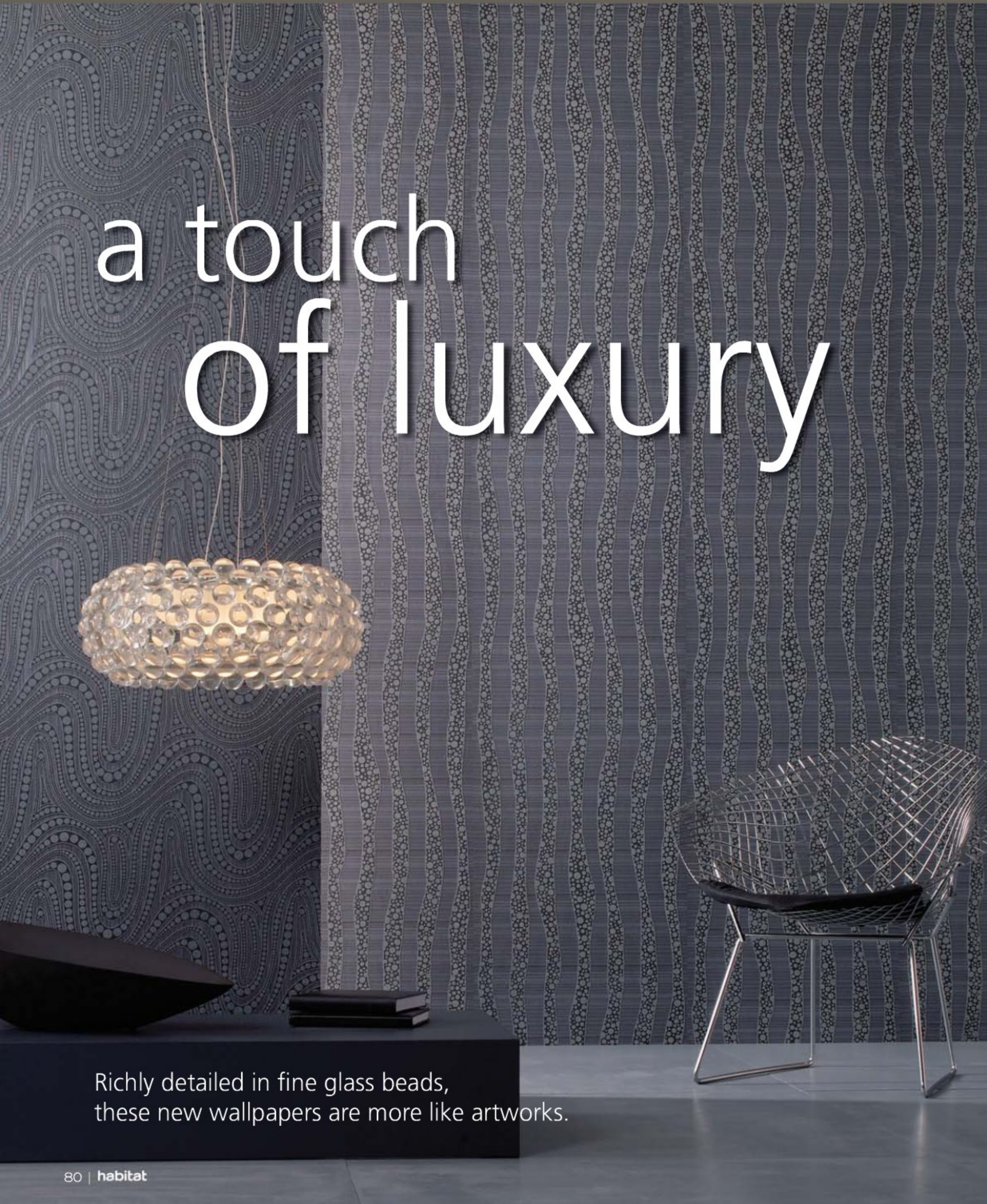
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Win an Aquatica voucher to the value of $500. Simply write 'Aquatica' on the back of an envelope with your contact details"

Conditions: Competition is open to NZ residents only. All employees, and their immediate families, of Resene Paints Limited, Jones Publishing and their advertising agencies, are ineligible to enter. Prize may not be exchanged or redeemed for cash. Competition closes 5pm, 30 September 2008.

a touch of luxury



Richly detailed in fine glass beads, these new wallpapers are more like artworks.



Of all the luxuries we dream of having, time is the one we most value, according to a recent survey. 'The ultimate luxury is having enough time to do whatever you want and being able to afford it', says Pamela Danziger, author of the report (*).

Few of us may achieve that, but there is good news. Because it is defined personally and about one's experience, luxury is something that everyone can have. Nearly three-quarters of those surveyed agreed that "luxury is for everyone and different for everyone." While it is not exclusive to one class or group of people, luxury is expected to be something with a quality that sets it noticeably above the average.

In interior design, luxury has made a definite return. As Elizabeth Wilhide, author of the book New Décor, states: "Wallpaper is back; so is the chandelier; and white goods are not just white any longer. A new generation of designers and retailers has restored spirit and vitality to the contemporary interior using vivid colour, bold pattern, decorative details and more than a touch of exuberance."

Colour and texture are elegantly paired in the opulent Platinum wallcoverings collection from Vision Wallcoverings. The paper is richly detailed with fine glass beads in three graphic but subtle ornamental patterns: Dreamtime, Serpentine and Renaissance. These are papers set noticeably above the average, more like pieces of art than wallcoverings.

The decorative designs are complemented with finely striped and matt papers, and presented in a palette of persuasive colourways, from sterling silver and opalescent white to burnished gold and ruby red.

Platinum is the first of the elite VISION LUXURY label collections, and obtainable only by special order. Imported from Europe, Platinum is on view in April, and exclusive to Resene ColorShops.

For more information, call VISION on 0800 WALLPAPER. H

Report: The Global Luxury Market: Exploring the Mindset of Luxury Consumers in Seven Countries

VISION wallcoverings

words: Mary Searle

accent on accessories

Whether your walls are neutral or coloured, accent colours and accessories bring house interiors to life.

Resene Quarter Sisal

Resene Raging Bull

Resene Rendezvous



The trend in interior design has been neutral colours for years now. Varying shades of beige, taupe and mushroom along with hundreds of different whites and creams have reigned supreme, with colour and personality being injected into the home through carefully chosen furniture, accessories and painted feature areas.

But whatever the colour of your walls or floors, accessories and good use of accent colour are the details that bring a room to life.

Auckland interior designer Angela Hutton recommends picking a theme and an accent colour to use throughout the house to create cohesion between the rooms.

She suggests taking a colour and using it in different ways in different rooms. Let's say your favourite colour is red. You could add a few magenta cushions in the lounge, paint the walls in the entranceway a deep burgundy, such as Resene Rendezvous, and hang cherry red towels in the bathroom. Remember, however, warns Angela, "the brighter the accent colour, the less of it you need."

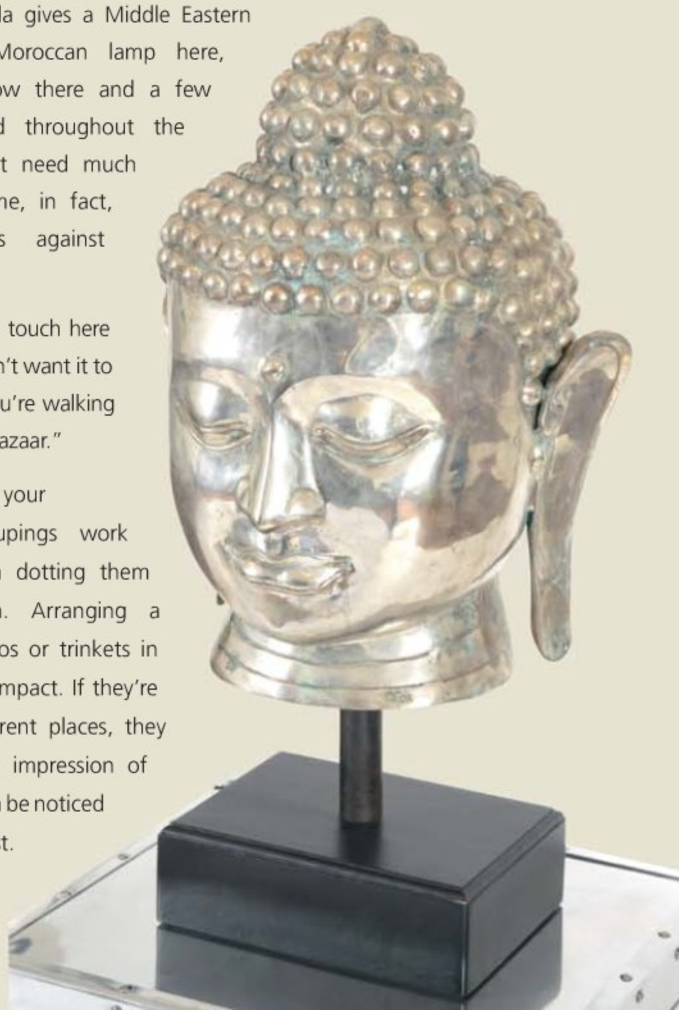
Your choice of accent colours will also be affected by the aspect of the room – sunny rooms are better with cooler shades and darker rooms look great with warmer tones.

You also want to consider what the room is used for. A busy room, such as the kitchen or living area, may be overpowered by a strong colour used everywhere – but that may work very well in the study or dining room.

A recurring theme throughout the home also adds unity. Angela gives a Middle Eastern example – a Moroccan lamp here, an Egyptian throw there and a few trinkets scattered throughout the house. You don't need much to create a theme, in fact, Angela cautions against overdoing it.

"All you need is a touch here and there. You don't want it to look as though you're walking into a Moroccan bazaar."

When arranging your accessories, groupings work well, rather than dotting them around a room. Arranging a selection of photos or trinkets in a cluster creates impact. If they're scattered in different places, they tend to give the impression of clutter, rather than be noticed as items of interest.



If you're hanging photos on a wall, Angela says to arrange a number of them in an imaginary frame. She also suggests finding a link between them; maybe they all have the same frame, or feature a particular colour or have a theme.

Mirrors make excellent accessories, especially in dark areas. They enhance the sense of space and reflect extra light into a room. Hang one in the entranceway, over the fireplace or at the end of long corridors.

Angela has two tips for placing a mirror. Make sure it's in proportion to what's below it – a big fireplace demands a large mirror – and ensure it reflects something pleasant, such as a window into the garden.

Candles or a lamp placed in front of a mirror look fantastic and add a touch of opulence.

Don't worry if your lamps are a bit old-fashioned. They can easily be brought up to date with a new shade. Drum-shaped lampshades are very popular at the moment and look great with vintage lamp stands.

Throw rugs can be used to great effect around the house, too. You can have different throws for different seasons: faux fur in the cooler months and pretty sea greens for summer.

Plants and flowers make great accessories but always make sure they look fresh and healthy. Dusty aspidistras or wilting lilies are definite no-nos.



When you decide to redecorate, regardless of whether you're moving into a brand-new house, undertaking a low-budget refurbishment or just rearranging the furniture, Angela recommends editing out all the accessories you don't like, and reusing your favourites or things that have sentimental value.

"It's not important to be fashionable. It's better to be surrounded by things you love." H

top tip

A busy room, such as the kitchen or living area, may be overpowered by a strong colour used everywhere. Instead, use it as an accent on one or two walls and as a splashback.

Resene Secrets



Mirror and chandelier from Ashton Grove, www.ashtongrove.co.nz

Resene High Five

Aluminium flightcase and handle hurricane lamp from Kovacs Design Furniture, Christchurch. Also Javanese Buddha (far left) from Kovacs Design Furniture



Resene Backcountry



Deep lustre amber bowl from May Time Marketing. Also Lopez lamp with taupe shade and floral embroidery taupe cushion (far left)

Resene Tandoori

Room setting designed by Angela Hutton



Resene Quarter Tea



Resene Chameleon

A collection of accessories from Allium Interiors



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words: Alice Leonard
pictures: Mark Heaslip



food for thought

One woman's celebration and promotion of the ultimate in comfort – ie, food – has been key to our more sophisticated palates.





The farmers market where Catherine Bell shops each Saturday morning is part of a revolution in Kiwi cuisine – a revolution which she helped kick-start in 1984.

Catherine is best known as having owned the iconic Auckland cookware store Epicurean Workshop and as the current owner of *Dish* magazine.

Back in the early 80s, she had just returned from a fabulous cuisine-packed year in Europe, where she'd studied at Leiths School of Food and Wine, cooked for families on Corfu and for a gentleman in Provence, worked at up-market kitchenware shop Divertimenti (one of the owners was an ex-pat Kiwi), done a course on making fresh cheeses at Neal's Yard Dairy, and worked at country house parties.

All of this – but especially buying fresh ingredients from growers at local markets – saw her return to New Zealand bursting with enthusiasm. To a land containing no mesclun, arborio rice, couscous or balsamic vinegar.

The first step was becoming co-owner of a Mt Eden deli, and importing the ingredients she'd discovered. Trays of mesclun (she'd brought the seeds back with her) were growing in the window, with leaves snipped to order.

Those simple but fresh ingredients form the basis of Catherine's everyday cooking. She doesn't necessarily plan ahead ("I'm normally not that organised") but decides what to prepare for dinner on the night, knowing that the fridge is full of good fresh food bought at the weekend markets. And like any working mother, time always seems short.

Her two grown children, Tom (21) and Olivia (17), certainly benefit from having a gourmand as a mother. While neither of them is directly following in Catherine's foodie footsteps yet, they have developed an appreciation of good food. Like any family, they eat their fair share of takeaways "but they tend to be good quality, like the Malaysian place in Khyber Pass or Japanese," says Catherine.

As a self-confessed Francophile, her cooking often has French leanings but she enjoys cooking across most cultures, from Asian to Mediterranean. In winter, Catherine revels in 'slow cooking', with her casserole dishes getting a good work-out. In summer, a family favourite it to make pizza dough and cook the bases, perhaps with just some pesto or tomato paste, on the barbecue. Then everyone around the table just adds their own choice of fresh ingredients to the base.

Her cooking is very seasonal, and she loves cooking duck. "I always lament, though, that fresh duck here comes without the head and feet. There's something about a whole bird that emphasises its farm origins."

Catherine is thrilled with how our cuisine has matured in recent years, but says we shouldn't become complacent.





She cites genetic modification and factory farming practices as clouds over our food.

"There's some strange Government thinking re GE. I want people to think about these issues, to wonder what's happened to our clean green image, to know what goes into making our food."

She hopes that *Dish* magazine can quietly stimulate some debate in these areas. Meantime, she is happy to be living in a city where cultural diversity means you can eat out on a different ethnic cuisine every night.

The Epicurean Workshop in Newmarket (which closed in 2006 after 17 years of trading) was originally designed along similar lines to Divertimenti, and included a cooking school. It was extremely hard work, but "it enriched my life considerably", she says. She traveled extensively, met many of her favourite chefs and food writers, and was able to continue her own education as a cook, writer and businessperson.

Today, her Auckland townhouse reflects her global adventures, with mementos from the various countries she has visited adorning many of the furniture surfaces, the walls and even the floors.

Catherine's interest in food and 'challenges-not-problems' attitude are heavily influenced by her mother. "She was a very good cook who educated herself about food by reading Elizabeth David, among others. She was very frustrated because she couldn't get fresh basil and all the other wonderful ingredients she read about... Unfortunately she died young and didn't experience the food revolution here."

"I want people to think about these issues..., to know what goes into making our food."

Catherine still runs Epicurean as an on-line kitchenware store (www.epicurean.co.nz), and still has the wholesale business, selling to other retailers and to the hospitality trade.

And despite Catherine's determination to simplify her life, she can't help seeing opportunities at every turn. In Dunedin recently she noticed plenty of Chinese restaurants but no yum char. She sees a desperate need for vegetable gardens in every school – especially in less wealthy areas – and lessons on how to prepare and cook the produce.

With all these ideas constantly on the boil, it seems likely Catherine will always be verging on too-busy – to the benefit of the nation's cuisine.

Turn the page for one of Catherine's favourite 'comfort' recipes.

Resene Brunette

Resene Kamikaze

Resene Quarter Spanish White



risotto porcini casserole

Although not a true risotto, this dish makes a hearty meal in colder weather. The porcini mushrooms add richness to the flavour but can be omitted if they prove hard to find. They should be readily available in small packets in your local specialty food store.

15 grams dried porcini mushrooms
120 grams unsalted butter
4-5 spring onions, finely chopped
2 carrots, peeled and finely chopped
2 cups arborio rice
½ cup dry white wine
4-5 cups beef stock or brown chicken stock, heated
500 grams fresh mushrooms
3 cloves garlic, crushed
¾ cup fresh Italian parsley, chopped
sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
1-1½ cups Parmesan cheese, freshly grated
1 cup cream
2 eggs
pinch of ground nutmeg

Place the porcini into a small bowl, cover with hot water and let stand for 30 minutes.

Melt half of the butter in a large pan, add the spring onions and carrots and sauté for 10 minutes. Add the rice and cook, stirring to coat with the butter and vegetables until the rice is warm.

Drain the porcini, reserving the liquid and slice. Strain the liquid through muslin to remove any grit. Pour this liquid over the rice. Add the wine and enough hot stock to completely cover the rice. Simmer, covered over a low heat, adding more stock as needed, until the rice is tender – about 30 minutes.

Melt the remaining butter in a frying pan; add the porcini and fresh mushrooms and sauté until tender. Stir in the garlic and parsley and simmer uncovered for 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Spread half the rice in the bottom of a buttered baking dish and top with all the mushroom mixture. Sprinkle generously with parmesan and spread the remaining rice on top.

Whisk the cream, eggs and nutmeg together and pour evenly over the rice. Sprinkle the top with the remaining parmesan. Bake until the top is puffed and brown – about 30 minutes. Serve with a crisp green salad. Serves 8. H

In winter, Catherine revels in 'slow cooking', with her casserole dishes getting a good work-out.







When Less is More!

Aquatica usually goes out of their way to give their customers more. But, in the case of their newest range, Only One - the ultimate in minimalistic tapware - Aquatica are actually trying to give them less.

Only One is Aquatica's latest addition to its tapware portfolio and what a stunner it is! With its sleek, simple lines, and obvious lack of handles, **ONLY ONE** is setting new standards in minimalistic elegance.

Created by award-winning Italian designer, Lorenzo Damiani, the **ONLY ONE** collection includes a Three-hole Washbasin Mixer, and Basin Mixer and Vessel Mixer, both with an adjustable spout. This spout pushes gently to the right or left to deliver hot or cold water and when pulled gently forwards, the spout controls the flow of water.

So, thanks to **ONLY ONE**, handles can be a thing of the past, and bathrooms and kitchens can look forward to a truly minimalistic look.

Oblio is yet another superb collection from Aquatica. This square and trendy minimalistic tapware range consists of Shower, Basin and Sink Mixer. With its innovative spout design, **OBLIO** is sure to be a must for any home.

Love Me From Italian designer, Maurizio Duranti, comes Aquatica's **LOVE ME** range consisting of low, tall or concealed basin mixers for the kitchen, and shower mixers, bath spouts and bath filler/shower mixers for the bathroom. There's even a stunning bath/shower column.

The whole **LOVE ME** range has an eye-catching, contemporary shape which will complement any home where the architectural lines reflect a similar design.

LOVE ME was the winner of the 2005 Good Design Award and is permanently on show at the Chicago Athenaeum, Museum of Architecture and Design.

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Simply send your proof of purchase to:
Marketing Dept, Aquatica NZ Ltd, PO Box 19-146, Avondale, Auckland.

Offer expires 30 June 2008

words: Vicki Holder

where old meets new



A perfect marriage of traditional and contemporary, this simple, yet dramatic kitchen draws together elements that distil the essence of the home.







When Jim and Jan Frazer relocated an old villa from Auckland's Remuera to a rural situation in Karaka, south of the city, they wanted a new kitchen that would reflect their contemporary tastes and collections. But they also wanted a design that was in keeping with the villa character. It had to be a little bit country with a clean-lined, contemporary edge. "Not ultra modern, but not too old," says Jim.

Designer Celia Visser took the familiar idea of the big farmhouse table and made it the central focus of the kitchen. "Hence the turned legs and the dark timber bench top," she says. "But the working side of the island looks just like a normal contemporary kitchen, fitted with a dishwasher and storage."

Celia says it was reasonably difficult trying to tie all of the elements together. "The benchtop and the turned legs were tricky. They required different skill sets and had to be made by different manufacturers. However, they were stained in the one location so they are exactly the same colour in oak, stained dark brown."

In a traditional framed door style, the rest of the cabinetry provides a soft contrast to the dark timber and is painted Resene Parchment to match walls in the same hue. Underneath the island table, a tongue-and-groove finish adds an old-style, country look.

The strong, lime green Resene Awol Graphic Glass splashback behind the Bosch induction hob was no

Avoid fly spots on ceilings with Resene Fly Deterrent. Designed to discourage flies from landing on the painted surface, it reduces the appearance of unwanted fly spots.

Resene Parchment

Resene Soapstone



random act of madness. Hints of the colour were already in the room, thanks to a beautiful piece of Maori sculpture on a wall. Celia chose the colour to help tie all the kitchen elements together, to link it to the owner's existing artworks as well as to the green of the tranquil rural view through the french doors opposite.

Jim Frazer says the architect had originally designed the kitchen to stay where it was – in what is now the adjacent dining niche. Together, the Frazers and Celia decided it simply wouldn't work. They are now pleased they swapped the spaces, so you can stand behind the island, prepare food at the bench and look out through the verandah to the view. Says Jim: "We recently had my mother's 70th birthday here. It works so well for entertaining with large numbers – the way it opens to the outdoors."

The strong, lime green glass splashback behind the induction hob was no random act of madness.

Apart from the table bench and the lime glass, the rest of the kitchen has a simple feel. "I didn't want to go over the top with anything too different. Everything else just fits in and is in keeping," says Celia. The handles and square sink and mixer are clean-lined, strong and contemporary, as is the rangehood. With its sleek, curved glass hood, it's light and simple.

The high ceiling of the room generates a sense of spaciousness, making the space feel uncluttered and comfortable. Halogen lights above the island help to reinforce that notion. Small, white, glass cylinder fittings complement the white bar stools.

Between the pantry and the fridge/freezer, the hob is a creamy Caesar stone, chosen for practicality and looks. "We didn't want more stainless steel. But we did want something sturdy and durable around the hob to contrast with the dark timber." H



Designer: Celia Visser, Celia Visser Design, Auckland

Resene Soapstone

Appliances: Bosch dishwasher, rangehood and induction hob

Resene Lemon Twist





Handles: Katalog

Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom (walls) and Resene Lustacryl (trims and joinery) tinted to Resene Parchment.

Resene Parchment



Benchtop: Caesarstone in Latte and dark-stained oak

Tap: Franke

Resene Awol

Splashback: Graphic Glass in Resene Awol

Resene Classius



Resene Sofisticata





white magic

Smeg once again breaks through the fashion barrier with a range of coloured appliances and sleek design.





Walk into any trendy new kitchen in recent years and there is likely to be a common component – Smeg appliances.

That occurrence isn't one that is the result of luck; Smeg has invested much effort during the years into not only making its appliances technologically advanced and high in performance, but in leading current kitchen fashions.

An example of that investment is the Smeg Linear series, designed specially to reflect the trend in streamlined, minimalist kitchens.

And now, Smeg are at the forefront of another turn in fashion, reintroducing white and black appliances.

But there's no need to cringe at distant memories of mum's white freestanding coil cooker. Today's white ovens from Smeg look quite different, made from opaque white glass rather than enamel, and complemented by 12 oven functions and the latest cool door technology. LED displays, rear illuminated knobs and symbols that light up when the oven is in use create a space-age appearance.

Smeg's new 72-cm wide Linear hob is designed so that the trivets appear to float above the hob. A new burner design allows the flame to go directly upwards, rather than from the sides, giving a more intense heat; Smeg is proud to claim it as the world's most efficient burner.

While stainless steel appliances will be the mainstay of many kitchens in years to come, kitchen designers like Mal Corboy of Mal Corboy Design appreciate Smeg's range of colour choices, from those from the fun Art Deco ranges to the black and white finishes now available.

"Smeg have a great range of products to encompass and enhance any design whether its country or contemporary," says Mal.

"I think we have gone through the white-on-white stage with kitchen design and now people want more colour choices. Smeg's ranges meet that need. The Linear black and white range offers choice while still being neutral enough to complement any kitchen.

"I tend to design contemporary kitchens, to create nice lines within a kitchen, and the Linear series, in particular, enhances that beautifully."

The Linear series has alternative colour options, and includes a range of half ovens, pryolitic ovens, from 60cm to 100cm wide hobs and the KTS75C designer rangehood. H

www.smeg.co.nz

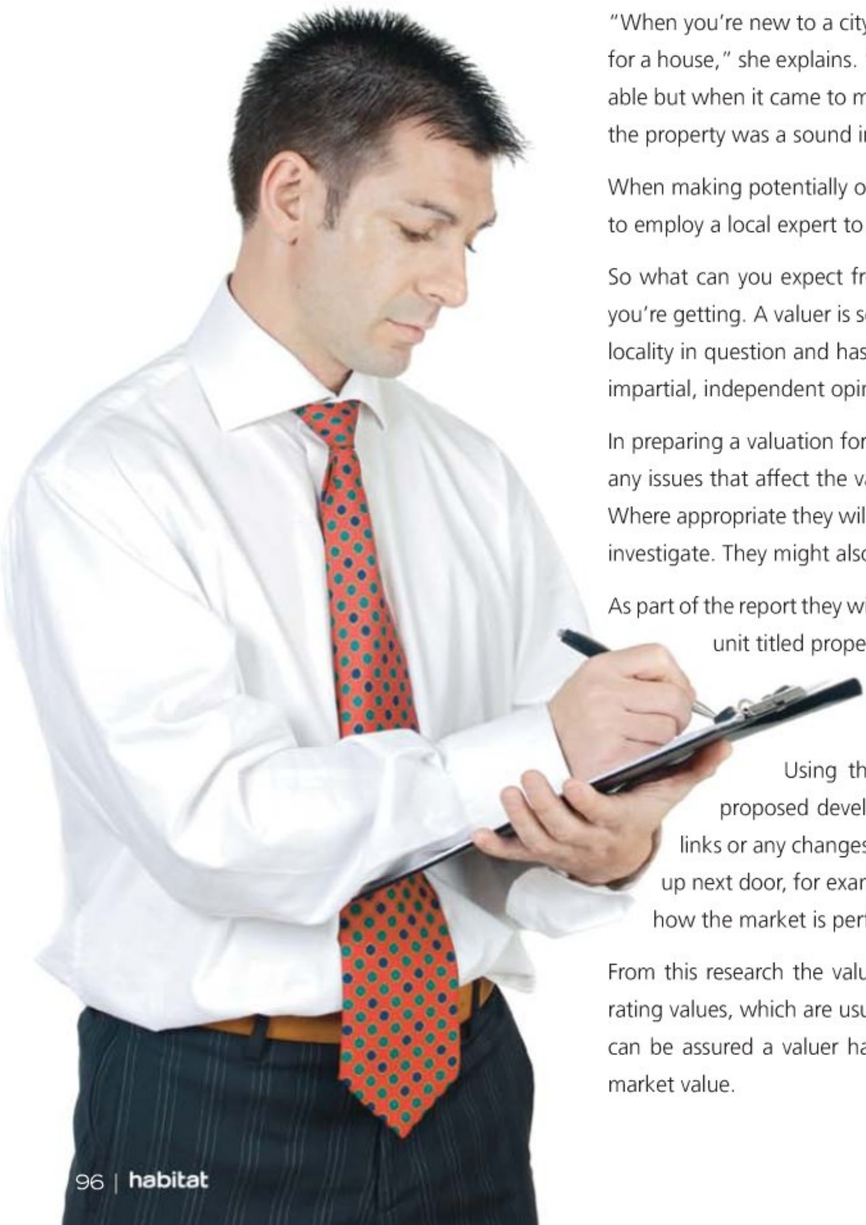
it's all black and white

As a showcase to the Smeg Linear black and white range, this kitchen at the Kitchen' Things showroom in Mt Eden, Auckland, features many of the latest appliances: two white wall ovens, funky cylindrical stainless steel extractor fans, an induction hob, a series of mix and match gas hobs as well as pre-configured hobs with multiple burners, a square sink insert and two retro-style refrigerators.

words: Jo Gault
picture: iStock

valuer

An independent valuer's report will help ensure you don't pay more for a property than it's worth.



How much is that house really worth? The real estate agent is telling you one thing; the rateable value carried out two years previously suggests differently. But who can give you a truly independent expert opinion?

Helen and her family moved to Auckland from Wellington last year and were quite daunted by the prospect of finding a good buy.

"When you're new to a city you have little or no feel for what represents a fair price to pay for a house," she explains. "We looked around and did our homework as much as we were able but when it came to making a purchase, we didn't hesitate in using a valuer to ensure the property was a sound investment and we weren't paying over the market odds."

When making potentially one of the biggest purchases of your life it makes excellent sense to employ a local expert to check out all the facts.

So what can you expect from a valuer? Of prime importance is the quality of the advice you're getting. A valuer is someone who thoroughly knows the local house market and the locality in question and has accurate information that enables them to give you a genuine impartial, independent opinion.

In preparing a valuation for you they will first do a visual inspection of the property, noting any issues that affect the value of the property, such as dampness, leaks and poor design. Where appropriate they will recommend you use a building inspector or engineer to further investigate. They might also advise on ways to add value.

As part of the report they will check the certificate of title, which is important for crossleased/unit titled properties, to highlight any potential problems such as right-of-ways, shared driveways and so on that may need a solicitor's help to resolve.

Using their local knowledge they will be able to inform you of any proposed developments in the area, such as new shopping malls or transport links or any changes to the local business zoning – could a new business park spring up next door, for example? They can provide a list of recent house sales and a view of how the market is performing.

From this research the valuer will then make their value recommendation. Unlike council rating values, which are usually only done in bulk every three years to set council rates, you can be assured a valuer has assessed your property individually to determine the current market value.

How do you pick a reliable valuer? If you don't have any recommendations to go on, then one point of contact should be the Property Institute of New Zealand (www.property.org.nz), which has around 3000 members, offering a variety of property-related services to the public. To become a member, a valuer will need to have a property qualification and have passed the high standards set by the valuers' registration board. They are also bound by the institute's code of ethics and reporting standards.

The largest valuation company in New Zealand is QV, which has 22 offices throughout the country and a very useful website (www.qv.co.nz), with plenty of information on the valuation process. As well as being able to request a full current market valuation, you can purchase a selection of short reports online, such as certificates of title deeds, local sales, property histories and the very handy E-valuer report, for when you're at the 'just looking' stage and simply want a quick price validation.

"We didn't hesitate in using a valuer to ensure the property was a sound investment."

In Australia, there is the equivalent but smaller organisation, at www.qv.com.au or the Australian Valuers Institute at www.valuersinstitute.com.au.

The cost of a full, current valuation varies depending on the value of the property and its location, but you can expect to pay a minimum of $500 and at least double that if the property is around $1 million. If you're borrowing more than 80% of the value of the property or if it's a private sale your lender will usually insist on a valuation.

Pieter Geill, who's been a valuer for more than 21 years and specialises in the Hutt Valley area of Wellington, says one of the main benefits he can offer his clients is peace of mind. "Purchasing a house can be a hugely stressful process involving a substantial financial commitment. So you really do want to know as much as you can before you sign on the dotted line, including that the price you're about to pay is indeed a fair one." H

top tip

Don't rely on your council valuation (CV) as a reflection of market valuation unless it is very current. You can, however, compare the percentage difference between houses that have recently sold and their CVs as a reflection of market trends.

Resene
Party Animal

perfect fit



From curvy to cute, square-edged to sculptural, these hand basins fit any situation.

In this day and age, the bathroom is the homeowners' sanctuary. From large homes to small apartments, the Athena bathroom collection has been designed to complement and enhance any home interior. Athena offers cutting-edge Italian-made vitreous china from WhiteStone as well as European mineral composite from Dansani of Denmark.

Athena's new range of hand basins are ideal for bathrooms where space is at a premium – while still encompassing the smart, functional and contemporary design of any Athena product. Aligned with the latest bathroom trends, Athena's hand basins have a strong square design with clean edges, and a choice of oval or semi-recessed styles.

Produced from the finest WhiteStone vitreous china and European mineral composites, there is no compromise on quality with the Mini Hox and Mini Slab hand basins. Both basins are slim enough to fit into an existing layout, but still allow versatility in design. For discreet storage, the Mini Hox and Mini Slab can be coupled with matching cabinets that are available in a range of colour options including Dark Oak, Burnished Wood and Silva Strata.





Peta



Bet



Deca



Mini Hox



Mini Slab

The Peta, Deca and Bet hand basins add a touch of elegance to any toilet suite. The Bet adds flare to a cabinet with its unique slim structure, whereas the Peta and Deca can be used independently of a cabinet. When mounted alone, the Peta and Deca create a minimalist appeal with their clean, crisp lines and seamless finish.

For peace of mind that your bathroom will stand the test of time, Athena has a five-year warranty on hand basins. All Athena products have been manufactured with a focus on quality, and designs that are in tune with our bathroom trends. Athena is proudly New Zealand owned and operated.

To find out more about our exquisite range of products visit www.athena.co.nz or call 0800 4 ATHENA for a free copy of our catalogue. H

athena
BATHROOMS

words: Sharon Newey

pamper palace



With a cocoon-like shower and rich colours, this ensuite is a pampering place to be.

pictures: Peter Davies





When Maggie and Allan Cameron built a holiday home at Mangawhai Heads, north of Auckland, they carefully specified a palette of pale neutral colours (the main colour being Resene Blanc) in the main living area so as not to detract from their sea view.

But when it came to the ensuite, almost the reverse is true. As one of the few rooms with no view, Maggie was keen that it had a rich and dramatic look, which has been expertly accomplished by interior designer Amanda Hart of AH Design (now based in Palmerston North) with a mix of chocolate coloured glass mosaics and walls in the warm tones of Resene Pristine Lavender from the Resene Karen Walker chart.

Coppery tones shimmer off the floor tiles, from the mirror frame and from within the glass mosaics, while the wall-mounted vanity is in dark-stained wenge timber with a black granite top. That same black granite has been formed into a threshold for the shower and its colour is reflected in a border of black tiles that runs around the edge of the room.

The curved, almost pod-like shower is a feature of the room, not only because of its organic shape but because it sits in the centre of the long narrow room, effectively splitting it in two areas of use. The layout had already been specified on the house plans but Amanda felt a curved rather than rectangular shower was more dramatic.

The shower walls were taken only to door height to allow more light to reflect off the mosaics and to emphasise the curved walls. The shape also determined the use of mosaic tiles as the only size that can be practically laid on a curved wall.

At one end sit the toilet and a small hand basin and vanity, accessed via a door closest to the bedroom entrance. At the other end, is the main vanity and shower opening, accessed via a door from the walk-in wardrobe.

Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom combines anti-bacterial silver protection and MoulDefender mould inhibitor, perfect for minimising unwanted nasties in kitchens, bathrooms and laundries.

The use of Resene Pristine Lavender on the walls keeps the room warm and welcoming. Any lighter colour would be too harsh against the velvety glass mosaics.

This vanity has perfect symmetry with two top-mounted vessel basins flanked by two top-mounted swan-necked taps. Above, a custom-made mirror is framed in a mottled dark and light coppery frame, and is flanked by two narrow glass louvred windows. Two delicate lights sit above the mirror.

Beside the door from the wardrobe, a specially built tower of shelves holds towels bought specially from Holy Sheet in Australia. Says Maggie: "It's become a bit of a family joke – the lengths I went to just to buy towels to match

Resene
Half Villa White

the bathroom." But that attention to detail, by both Maggie and Amanda Hart, is what makes the bathroom special.

Maggie was keen to have a glass-less shower, so the curved shape of the shower creates enough of an enclosure that the water doesn't splash out onto the floor.

The shape also maintains a theme of curves used throughout the house, in the shape of the deck, the kitchen island benches and some of the external and internal wall edges. Even the part-wall used as a modesty panel beside the toilet has neatly curved edges.

The use of Resene Pristine Lavender on the walls keeps the room warm and welcoming. Any lighter colour would be too harsh against the velvety glass mosaics. The paint is also used in the adjoining master bedroom, where it perfectly matches a feature wall papered in Brocante China Rose. **H**





Design: Amanda Hart of AH Design

Mirror: Howick Frames and Gallery

Mirror light: ARIA by St Michel

Resene
Triple White Pointer



Basins and taps: Robertson Agencies

Resene
Half Villa White

Shower tiles: Amethyst Glass Mosaic, from AH Design

Resene
Boomerang





Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to Resene Pristine Lavender and trims in Resene Lustacryl tinted to Resene Half Villa White.

Resene
Blanc

Floor tiles: Copper 450mm x 450mm, semi-polished porcelain, from AH Design

Resene
Kalgoorie Sands



Resene
Pristine Lavender

home sweet spa

Turn your own bathroom into a spa with the world's first beauty shower.



Our lives are busy and stress is commonplace. As time-crunched consumers, we're looking for a pampering, stress-relieving experience that doesn't involve making appointments days in advance or slathering ourselves in complicated creams.

Satinjet Maia by Methven is the world's first shower to deliver the health and beauty benefits of a spa experience in the privacy of your own bathroom.

Maia provides a chlorine free, pure water experience and its multi-functional shower head delivers an all-over body shower, a body massage and a gentle face massage.

Developed in conjunction with consumers, dermatologists, a leading spa therapist and the Methven design team, Satinjet Maia is also endorsed by international model Rachel Hunter: "Maintaining healthy skin has always been of paramount importance for me and the first time I tried Satinjet Maia, I was sold."

Maia is equipped with a Vitamin C canister that eliminates chlorine and the drying effect it has on skin and hair. After using Maia, your hair will be cleaner, silkier and more manageable, and your skin softer and younger looking.

By rotating the head, Maia can also be used as a replacement for your ordinary shower. Maia uses patented Twin-jet technology which turns each water droplet into thousands, giving you a full body shower experience like no other. With a further twist of the head, Maia will deliver powerful jets of water to massage your entire body, stimulating blood flow while at the same time, relaxing tired muscles.

The massage spray gently stimulates the delicate capillaries, increasing blood flow and improving the delivery of oxygen and nutrients to your skin. The easy breath configuration of the facial massage function allows for longer use and deeper cleansing.

Maia uses proven water-saving technology, allowing it to perform well over the strictest international Water Conservation Standards – and still provides a luxurious spa experience. It is officially a low-flow shower; it just doesn't feel like it.

Maia does not have to be professionally installed - anyone can install it in a matter of minutes.

METHVEN satinjet

www.satinjet.com

diy kidz

Resene Blue Jeans

Resene Neva

Yabbadabbadoo

Resene Soapstone

PAPER CHASE

Nothing is nicer than not only choosing a gift for one of your friends or a member of your family, but wrapping it in personalised paper and making a matching card. You can use the paper for other things, too, like covering your school books or simply as a piece of art to hang on your bedroom wall.



You will need:

Testpots of Resene Funk, Resene Hyperactive, Resene Parachute, Resene Royal Heath and Resene Belladonna

Sheets of paper

Midweight A4 card

Foam brushes in a variety of sizes

Chopping board and vege knife

5-6 medium-sized potatoes

Star cookie cutter

Sponge

Hole punch

Kids, check with your parents first about cutting the potatoes. You may need their help with Step 2!



Check out the Resene website for a whole host of step-by-step art projects for children and adults.

Resene Rollercoaster

Resene Rubber Ducky

words: Helena Dunn
pictures: Mark Heaslip

Resene Frenzee

1



3



2



4



To make:

1. Divide the card into three equal rectangles and cut out. Paint stripes on the paper and card using two or three colours and a variety of foam brushes to make different sized stripes. Let the paint dry completely.

2. Cut potatoes into a few shapes to make printing blocks. We made a triangle and diamond by cutting the ends of the potato off first, then cutting the sides away, and a circle by cutting the end off another potato. We made the star by first cutting the end off a potato, then sinking the cookie cutter into the cut end and shaving away the sides. Dry off the cut ends.

3. Use the potatoes like a stamp by dipping the cut end into the paint and dabbing off the extra paint onto the sponge. Press the potato onto the sheets of paper and card, to create a pattern.

4. Fold the card in half, and punch a hole in the top corner near the fold. Thread ribbon through the hole. Wrap up your presents and write a message in the card!

Top tips

Wet the foam brushes a little before you start painting the stripes. This helps the paint flow more easily.

We used a combination of stripes and potato prints but just using the potato prints on coloured paper and card would look great too!



Win a funky ride-on taxi

Win this fabulous TUFF Ride-on Taxi from The Limit. Made from durable stamped steel, the ride-on yellow taxi is for enthusiastic cabbies or racers from the age of one year.

For a chance to win, just write your details (name, email address, address and a daytime phone number) on the back of an envelope and send

TUFF Taxi
Habitat
PO Box 91344
AMSC
Auckland 1142



words: Vicki Holder



the heat is on

pictures: Frances Oliver

After generations in the same family, a cliff top garden now boasts a cosy outdoor dining setting complete with a fireplace.

The owner of this Auckland property, David McCulloch, arrived here with his parents when he was just nine years old. Apart from when he went flatting in his youth, he has lived here nearly all his life. "When I married Laurel, we ended up buying the house from my parents and coming back."

He says the garden was a lot different back then. And it stayed that way while David and Laurel's children grew up. There was a lawn for the dog and the obligatory sand-pit for the children to play in. They built a room for the spa towards the front of the section, "but the rest was covered in the old, exposed aggregate that you used to get".

When the children left home a couple of years ago, David and Laurel decided it was time to refurbish the area to better suit their new lifestyle. "We wanted easy-care – no lawns. We wanted all the gardening to be raised at knee-height and plants that didn't require much gardening."

Although they sought to increase the amount of usable outdoor living, the challenge was the very exposed site. "Living on the side of a hill with a panoramic, 180-degree view, you get the winds. So the landscaping is all about making the natural windbreaks work for you."

First to be added was a comfortable outdoor pavilion towards the rear of the section. A kind of lock-up party room, it has a sitting area, sound system and kitchenette. The pavilion left a sheltered area against the boundary, handy to the house, where they could establish an outdoor living area, large enough to accommodate up to about 20 people for a dinner party, that still captured the views.

The McCulloch's top priority was an outdoor fire – a real log fire to create the warmth, the ambience and the smells. "It simply had to be a real fire," says David. "A lot of people tried to convince us otherwise because gas would have been a lot easier. You wouldn't need all the logs and wind wouldn't be such a consideration. But now everyone loves it. It's amazing how everybody wants to put another log on the fire or toast marshmallows late at night."

While the McCullochs were keen to make a contemporary statement, the design had to marry with the house, a bungalow built in 1921. Timber framing above the area is in keeping with the original home. So, too, are the white weatherboards that support the raised garden beds. These are edged with a double layer of kwila timber which not only matches the silvery timber used on the decks, but provides another place for guests to sit.

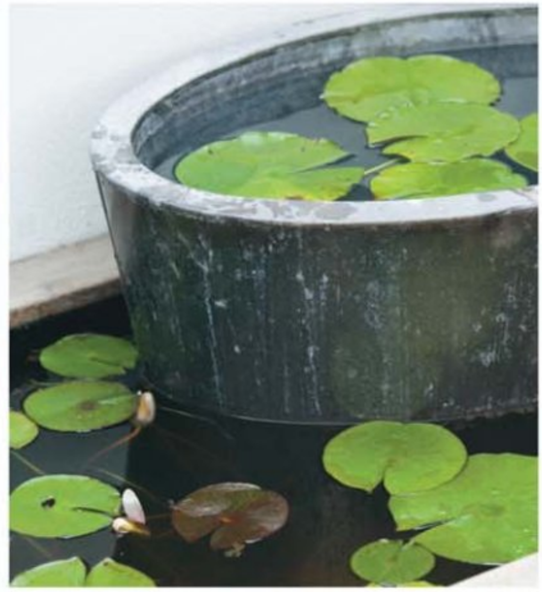


Look after your wooden deck - stain with Resene Kwila Timber Stain or Resene Furniture and Decking Oil to enhance its natural good looks.

Resene Afficionado

Resene Buffalo







Landscape designer Melissa Grove of Ambrosia Design devised a way to better link the setting to the view using a boardwalk of kwila. Against a bed of small-leafed, green groundcover between the outdoor setting and the boardwalk, this device sweeps the eye from the entry gate, past the house and out towards the view.

Melissa's planting scheme – a mix of small subtropical palms, agaves, bromeliads, red flaxes and gardenias – is confined to the raised garden beds, softening the vertically slatted, dark-stained timber fence behind.

In such a setting, lighting had to be carefully planned so as not to distract from the view at night. Lights are concealed in garden shrubs or feature as small copper up-lights on the tent-like timber structure surrounding the area. Sound is also incorporated, by remote from an iPod in the pavilion, linked to tiny speakers underneath the Clearlite roof.

A long radiant heater attached to the roof means the McCullochs and their friends or family can sit outside at night and not have to cram around the fire to stay warm.

The other thing they envisaged to make this outdoor room perfect was a water feature with the soothing sounds of a fountain. Not quite completed, an antique copper basin floating in a small pond of water lilies awaits the plumbing which will bring this dream to fruition. In the meantime, many happy days and nights are now being spent in the garden, enjoying the breathtaking backdrop, irrespective of the weather. H

outdoor fireplaces

Before installing an outdoor fire, consider the following points from Heat Outdoors, the company which built the McCulloch's fireplace:

1. Do you want a wood or gas fire? If you simply want ambience and something that's easy to maintain, go for gas. Wood fires have a greater heat output, but they can be messy and you need somewhere to store the logs. There's nothing like a wood fire, however, for a truly evocative setting.

2. Determine the best position for the fireplace to make it the focal point of an outdoor setting. Create a cosy courtyard feel, away from the wind in a protected position. While indoor fires can be put anywhere in an inside room, high and unpredictable winds compromise the efficiency of your outdoor fire. Wood fires especially can be smoky if placed in a draughty spot.

3. Outdoor gas fires need gas certification and in some cases, building consent. The chimney flue is typically taller for outdoor wood fires so in most cases building consent would be required, and depending on your location you may need resource consent as well. Fireplaces must be built approximately one metre away from the boundary.

4. Effective gas and wood fires need the correct ratio between chimney dimensions and the fire opening. It's all about balancing the amount of air needed to 'draw', with the height necessary to extract the exhaust.

5. Outdoor fireplaces can be made from a variety of products. Heat Outdoors recommends building with concrete products for safety and durability. They can be left raw or finished in brick, plaster or schist. Heat Outdoors has recently launched a locally produced fireplace made of lightweight concrete which, as a 'complete knock down' (CKD) unit, can easily be relocated if required.





Large Tic Tac Toe for outdoor use (limestone composite with stainless steel) from May Time Marketing

Resene Aspiring

Subtropical plants include bromeliads and agaves

Outdoor seagrass cushions in a carry-bag set of four with olive green trim from May Time Marketing

Resene Woodstock



Get the washed terracotta look with Resene Beethoven used as a colourwash effect.

Resene Beachcomber





Limestone composite decorative bird from May Time Marketing

Nairobi tealight holder, limestone composite for outdoor use, from May Time Marketing

Resene High Five

Copper lighting for weather resistance and good looks

Get the dark-stained timber look with Resene Waterborne Woodsman tinted to Resene Crowshead.

Resene Cargo



Resene Pitch Black

on the following pages, find two alternative style suggestions





^ This outdoor dining area smoulders with style.

Resene Alabaster

>>
Oi oi (Leptocarpus similis)

Kings Plant Barn
0800 PLANTS
www.kings.co.nz

>
concrete table

Custom Concrete Ltd
www.customconcrete.co.nz
0274 889 950







<
New Zealand iris (Libertia grandiflora)

>
M3 Standard pot with graphite glazed finish

Burrelli
www.burrelli.com
03 384 4722



>
Jetmaster outdoor fire

The Fireplace
www.thefireplace.co.nz
09 623 6990



Resene Tea

Resene Moroccan Spice

Resene Barbecue

Resene Topspin



Jeremy Head

from Landscape Architect, suggests this alternative landscaping scheme:

This design draws on our raw, primeval landscape, and features muted, natural colours, with a limited planting selection to suit the city courtyard setting. River or volcanic boulders are set around a sunken seating area with comfortable cushions and bolsters. At the end of the concrete-slab table is a stone-clad fireplace topped with a smooth plastered cap. A boardwalk of chunky macrocarpa runs along one side, past the dark-tiled pond. Fine steel tracery welded into tree-like shapes adorns the plastered perimeter wall, which is painted Resene Moroccan Spice. A white shade sail suspended in a lightweight steel pergola shades the seating area during the day. At night, the space is transformed by pond lighting, fairy lights, and a subtle red glow emanating from beneath the decking.

phone 03 326 7379, mobile 021 308 048, email jeremyhead@xtra.co.nz





^ Cool and crisp, an inviting spot to linger.

Resene Urbane

>>
Agave
(Agave attenuata)

>
LouvreTec alloy louvred roof

LouvreTec
www.louvretec.co.nz







<
Star Jasmine
(Trachelopermum grandiflora)

>
Fatboy 2200 Rectangular Setting

Devon Lifestyle Ltd
09 274 6260
www.devonlifestyle.com



Resene Backcountry

Resene Feverpitch

Resene Lemon Twist

Resene Mondo



<
Kentia palms
(Howea forsteriana)



Campbell Strachan

from Landscape Leaders, suggests this alternative landscaping design:

This low-maintenance outdoor space has a warm and refreshing feel with a clean, modern look. Elements of fire and water add vitality. The focal point of the space is the wet wall water feature on the rear fence. Water flows down the stones to a small pond, then through a shallow exposed aggregate riverstone bed and into a rectangular pond. Kentia palms flank the plastered fireplace, while the rear wall is softened by fragrant, espaliered star jasmine, which complements the white flower of the renga renga lilies at the base of the wall. The powder-coated aluminium roof fitted with adjustable louvres provides shade and additional light as required.

phone 09 434 6407, mobile 021 557 658, email campbellstrachan@hotmail.com

words and pictures: with thanks to Hirepool

making a fence

There's nothing smarter than a simple paling fence, especially when you've built it yourself!

>

You will need:
posts of treatment level H4, rails and paling of treatment level H3, brace pegs, concrete, string line.

Equipment:
wheel barrow, posthole borer, nail gun, level, concrete mixer, circular saw, tape measure, power box and leads, safety equipment





< Step 1

Decide where you wish to position your fence by using a string line attached to two pegs. Position the line to indicate where the front of the posts will be.

Step 2 >

Using a posthole borer, dig holes at both ends of the string line for the end posts, positioning these to brush the string line. Brace each post securely.





< Step 3

Work out the spacing for the intermediary posts by measuring the distance between the two end posts and splitting this evenly. Using the posthole borer dig the holes, and set the posts, ensuring they are level, ready for the concrete footings.

Resene Fertile Mind

Resene Moonbeam

Resene Woodstock

Step 4 >

Clear each hole of any debris and mix your concrete. When pouring the concrete be mindful of the area surrounding the hole. Continue to check the alignment of each post using a level as the concrete sets.

Step 5 >>

Once the concrete is set, you are ready to fix the rails. Cut the rails to the correct length; tack a small block to one post and rest the rail on this while you fix the other end to the next post. Continue doing this between each post.







< Step 6

With all the posts and rails in place, it is time to fix the palings. This can be quickly done by using a nail gun. Remember when spacing the palings that timber shrinks over time.

You can leave the fence uncoated or finish it in your choice of paint or stain. Popular fencing finishes available in an extensive range of colours are Resene Lumbersider waterborne satin or Resene Waterborne Woodsman penetrating stain.

The finished fence. V

More comprehensive instructions can be found on www.hirepool.co.nz



courtyard recovery



^ before

Small, sparse and uninviting – this city courtyard is in dire need of a makeover.





before

> *Scrubby, pointless grass*
> *A muddle of pebbles and paving*
> *Nowhere to sit and relax*
> *Looks barren and bleak*

Life in the city often means compromising on outdoor living and garden space. And while any garden you do get with your subdivided or crosslease section, or terraced house is often small, it presents maybe even more of a challenge in regard to design.

This particular courtyard is near the busy Newmarket shopping precinct in Auckland and is part of a terraced house complex. Facing south-west, the existing patch of grass has never done well, and is the only piece on the property – hardly worth keeping a lawn-mower for! In fact, this is the perfect place for the use of Stevenson paving, which comes in a wide range of formats and colours.

From coloured masonry paving to wetcast slabs, Italian-inspired terrazzo tiles to natural stone there is a solution to suit all budgets and styles. There are also complementary wall, retaining and garden edging products available to enable you to create a seamless finish.

Whether you want to create an additional entertaining space or a quiet haven from the outside world, the Stevenson hardscaping products provide a solid solution.

This courtyard is small; the main part measures just 4.5m by 4.5m with another 2m by 3m beside the gate. The gate leads to a fairly busy street while the bifolding doors and the single door lead to what is currently used as a bedroom but which could be used as a second living space or home office.

The main living area of the house is on the second floor, with windows looking down into the courtyard.

The existing landscaping was part of the original development and consists of some plain 300mm square concrete pavers, some river pebbles, griselinia plants along one side and a small gleditsia tree.

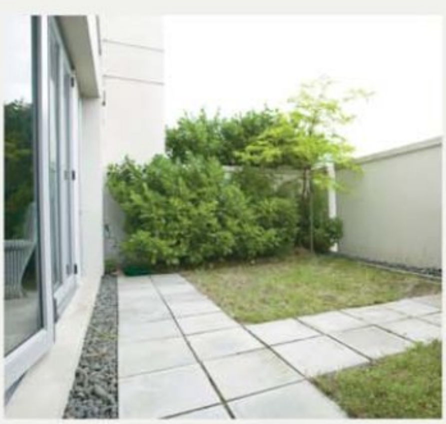
We asked landscape designers Jennifer O'Neill-Joyce of Gardens to Go and Nicky Samuel of Elan Design to add some life and flair to this sad little courtyard (see overleaf).

For more inspiring ideas on using hard landscaping, check out the Stevenson website at **www.stevenson.co.nz/home or call 0800 BLOCKS**.

STEVENSON

illustration: Bruce Bryant





^ Curvaceous shapes and lush plants create an enticing space.

Resene
Half Sea Fog



Pohutukawa
(Metrosideros collina Tahiti)



Silver Lady fern
(Blechnum gibbum)



Veneto pavers in Sabbia

Stevenson
www.stevenson.co.nz
0800 BLOCKS



Bush triptych, outdoor artwork

Peter Latham
www.peterlatham.com



Red canna lily

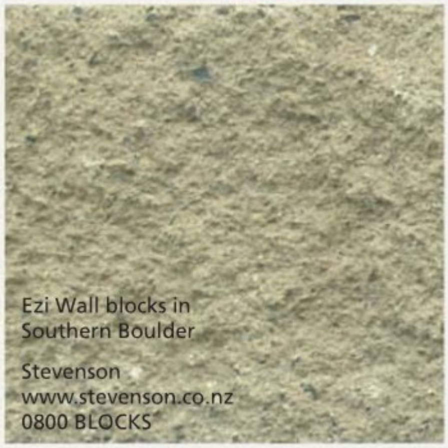


Mondo grass
(Ophiopogon planiscarpus)



tall cylindrical glazed Chinese pots

Pottery International
www.potteryinternational.co.nz



Ezi Wall blocks in
Southern Boulder

Stevenson
www.stevenson.co.nz
0800 BLOCKS



Resene Condor

Resene Whizz Bang

Resene Sea Fog

Resene Sofisticata



Nicky Samuel

landscape designer of
Elan Design, Te Awamutu,
suggests this courtyard scheme:

This small enclosed courtyard has been transformed into a practical space by the addition of several design features. Painting the walls with Resene Sea Fog and the use of light-coloured pavers (Stevenson's Veneto Sabbia) gives the impression of a larger space. A low wall in Stevenson's Ezi Wall, colour Southern Boulder, provides a planter box on the perimeter of the space. Plant choices include those with texture, red flowers and those that will tolerate the semi-shaded site. A small water feature in the corner creates an ambient atmosphere, while an outdoor art panel on the wall facing the windows depicts native bush. A pebbled paving insert defines the link between the gate and the door, and a large pot adds colour.

phone 07 870 4457, email nicky@elandesign.net.nz, web www.elandesign.net.nz

illustration: Bruce Bryant





^ Clean lines and simple planting give an illusion of more space.

Resene Spanish White



Veneto pavers in Grigio

Stevenson
www.stevenson.co.nz
0800 BLOCKS



Acacia cognata 'Limelight'

Resene Caffeine

Resene Lucky Break

Resene Tandoori

Resene Paperback



<

Purple-flowering clematis, such as 'Gipsy Queen' or 'General Sikorski'

>

water-feature wall

DryBlock Architectural Masonry in Kohl

Stevenson
0800 BLOCKS
www.stevenson.co.nz



>

Maple (Acer palmatum 'Purpureum')

>>

outdoor chairs and sofa in light beige

Solaire
www.solairefurniture.com



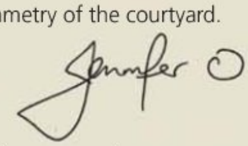




Jennifer O'Neill-Joyce

landscape designer, Gardens to Go, suggests this solution:

The contemporary style and simple planting in this design gives an illusion of space. The soft, fine foliage creates a pleasing contrast against the hard lines of the Stevenson DryBlock Architectural Masonry and the walls. The planters are kept as narrow as possible to maximise the paved area, which can be used as a private relaxing space. All but the feature wall are in the same colour as the house to make it feel like an extension of the interior – literally an outdoor room. The red tile insets create visual interest when viewing the garden from the townhouse's second floor. The water feature uses copper piping and enhances the overall asymmetry of the courtyard.



phone 0800 2 CREATE, email g2g@paradise.net.nz, web www.gardenstogo.co.nz

boxing on

Aside from eco-friendly paint, Resene is doing its bit for the environment in many other ways.

Any major company these days needs to be aware of the impact its production techniques or products have on the environment. While Resene produces its Environmental Choice paints (see overleaf), it also strives to be eco-friendly in other ways – such as through its packaging and by using sustainable paper stocks on which to print its colour charts and brochures.

When it comes to packaging, many people would have clear consciences by using paper or cardboard, knowing that once it has been used it can be recycled.

The Resene philosophy doesn't rest with one use, however, when it comes to cardboard.

Distributing paint around the country requires the use of lots of cardboard boxes. Many of these are passed onto those customers who buy large volumes of paint. The rest are returned to Resene using the Resene box recycling system.

Resene ColorShops flatten any spare boxes and place them into special box recycling cartons, which are then returned to the central Resene warehouse when full. The boxes are then reassembled and reused for future paint production. Being made of sturdy cardboard, the boxes can do many round trips before requiring replacement.



greening charts

Resene prints brochures, labels and its specifier newsletter, *Resene News,* on sustainable paper stocks, so sourcing sustainable paper stock for its colour charts was a natural recent step.

Resene worked with its main colour chart supplier, Color Communications, for nearly 18 months to test a vast variety of sustainable paper stocks for durability and aesthetics so that Resene could complete the transition of the last of its charts to sustainable paper stocks.



It was the first time that the colour chart supplier had been asked to help develop sustainable stock options, and finding paper stocks that would stand up to the demands of colour chart production was a surprisingly slow process. Many sustainable paper stocks are too lightweight to withstand the twisting and pulling of colour chips. After numerous production trials, stocks were confirmed and have begun to be used.

Resene colour charts are finished in Environmental Choice approved Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen, Resene SpaceCote Flat, Resene Enamacryl Metallic and Resene Non-Skid Deck & Path, while the remainder are finished in waterborne inks. Not only do the Resene paints give a truer representation of the actual colour, but they also reduce solvent emissions compared to traditional solvent-borne lacquers. This is a stark contrast to overseas colour chart production, where much of the colour chart market is still based on direct deposit colour swatches using solventborne lacquers.

And to round out Resene's responsible approach to the environment, this very magazine is wrapped in a special biodegradable plastic when posted to all of its cardholders. H

Resene
Lucky Break

painting the town green

Resene began its 'green' approach long before it was the topical issue it is today. In the 1950s, the company first introduced waterborne paint to the local market (it's hard to believe that before that, all paint was solventborne). Resene was also the first New Zealand paint company to offer an extensive range of Environmental Choice approved paints in 1996.

Environmental Choice is a programme endorsed by the Ministry for the Environment aimed at improving the quality of the environment by minimising the adverse environmental impacts generated by the production, distribution, use and disposal of products.

Resene Environmental Choice paints make it easy for customers to make sustainable purchases because they are from the existing range of Resene paints so don't cost any more.

One of the environmental baddies of paint is VOCs (volatile organic compounds) which are emitted from surface coatings, including many standard household paints, and have been shown to deplete ozone.

The average per litre VOC levels of Resene paint sales have dropped by more than 90% in the past two decades and in 2007, Resene Zylone Sheen VOC Free was introduced, followed by a VOC free ceiling paint and wallboard sealer this year.

Resene evaluates all key raw materials and pays a premium for ingredients that have demonstrably less impact on the environment. For example, titanium oxide is purchased from suppliers who use the least wasteful processing techniques.

Resene has also worked hard to make its paints last longer and have a positive impact on the entire building environment. For example, Resene Cool Colours are exterior paints formulated to reflect solar heat that would normally be absorbed, thereby reducing substrate stress and improving paint longevity. Lower heat absorption in a building exterior means your home is more comfortably cooler in summer.

And to complete the sustainability cycle, Resene introduced the world-first innovative paint recovery and recycling programme called Resene PaintWise in 2004. Any old paint of any brand can be returned to Resene for responsible recycling. Many thousands of cans have already been returned with paint donations going to community group projects throughout the country and to cover unwanted graffiti.

See www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm for details.

Resene
Symphony

Resene Gargoyle

bold as brass >

For a bit of elegant nostalgia, try this brass Altlanta Floor Lamp (also available in nickel) and Zoe armchair covered in Tagine Peppercorn from Mokum. The cushion is gold velour

Kovacs Design Furniture
1000 Ferry Rd, Christchurch
03 384 2999



off the shelf

deco delights >

Cup and saucer from the Deco range of double-walled ceramics, designed by Tithi Kutchamuch, a freelance designer and a recent graduate of the Royal College of Art in London, where she is now based. $11.95 from Nood (it stands for 'new objects of desire'), with five homeware stores recently opened nationwide

www.nood.co.nz



Resene Compass



< diy clock

Brushed stainless steel wall clock with magnetic numbers – place them wherever you like (and have an excuse for being late?)

Zany
09 520 6003
www.zany.co.nz

designer washing >

Your laundry will never look the same again. The Verso 65 washbasin, from Plumbline, is designed for the modern laundry and is placed on the specially designed, New Zealand-made, Stanza bench (it can also be wall hung)

0508 499 411
email sales@plumb-line.co.nz

Resene
Jimmy Dean





v slide into comfort

The water hyacinth Zecu armchair by Yothaka International, featuring double back pillows and elongated 'snow ski' wooden legs is available in chocolate, charcoal or natural

Perfect Pieces
09 303 3229
www.perfectpieces.co.nz



lit by a teardrop ^

Available as a recessed lamp or with a flush conical mount, the Glo lamp is hand blown in the old tradition of Murano glass, and comes in white smoked glass, cobalt blue, red or light blue

Ashton Grove
Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch
www.ashtongrove.co.nz

Resene
Cut Glass

∨ all in a row

This 100cm designer cooktop (PX140) has a world patented efficient burner and is part of the Smeg Linear series

Available at selected appliance dealers nationwide



∨ indigenous eating

New from Jason Products souvenir collection. These Nikau Splendour add allure to your table setting. Available at homeware stores

www.jasonproducts.com



Resene Solitaire





∧ seaside inspiration

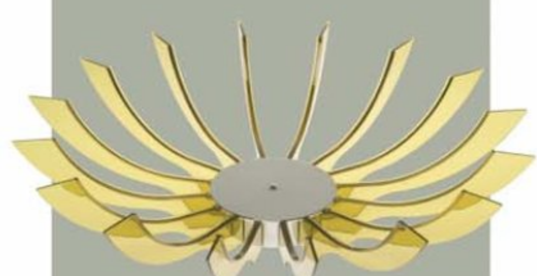
These sea-inspired lamps are made of Perspex with black coral and shells inside. The shell version can be customised by simply removing the shells and creating your own tableau of objects. Both have linen shades and are by Melbourne designer Craig Miller-Randle of MRD Home

May Time Marketing
0800 MAYTIME

∨ bowl or art?

The Azimuth Bowl is an intriguing addition to any kitchen or home, and designed by award-winning designer Gewah CL Lam. Very easy and fun to assemble, it's a unique and attractive way to present fruit and other items. $34.95 from Nood

www.nood.co.nz



Resene Lemon Grass

the ultimate decorating card just got better!

As well as the discounts on purchases at Resene ColorShops, you can now present your Resene ColorShop Card elsewhere and enjoy discounts on a range of products and services from artwork and tiles through to carpet. Simply present your Resene ColorShop Card or quote your card number to take advantage of these great offers. Offers are valid until 30 September 2008 and are not available in conjunction with any other offer, discount or promotion. All companies reserve the right to amend or update their offers at any time.

For more information on all these great offers, and more, see **www.resene.co.nz/colorshopcardoffers.co.nz**.

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www.corkconcepts.com

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Resene ColorShop Card

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www.aquatica.co.nz

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Offer starts with next available issue.

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from you...

starting young

We love the new Resene shop that recently opened in Ferrymead [Christchurch]. My children Mary (8) and Tim (6) are keen visitors and especially like the toys to play with; the very helpful staff who show us how the musical Lego operates; and the occasional sticker, lollipop or balloon.

We also use your testpots a lot for school and home projects. Mary got a great metallic look for her futuristic unicorn robot, and some frog-like colours for her lifecycle assignment. Tim has started a project with Dad's help and Dad's old train set. It's an ambitious track layout with buffers, a tunnel (half finished), and an assortment of 'trees' collected from the windy days (there have been many), which are yet to be 'planted'.

The testpots are small enough, and cheap enough, that we can use lots of different colours and select the right shade for each new project.
– the Wilson family

dining in style!

My partner and I flew to Wellington for Christmas with his brother's family in their new home. They are renovating and everything looks beautiful. However, I thought you would like to see the innovative Christmas table setting. We all greatly admired the table cloth.

The winning letter – congratulations!



explosive times

My son, Jackson Carver, recently made twin volcanoes for his school science project. He wanted to paint them, to make them look as realistic as possible. The local Nelson Resene ColorShop helped him out by supplying testpots of Resene French Pass, Resene Wham and Resene Kaitoke Green.

The volcanic eruption itself – courtesy of baking soda and lemon juice – was a resounding success!
– Richard Carver



reflecting who we are

Kia ora. I was keen to paint a Maori design on my house front, as I believe our homes should reflect who we are. Too often, the exterior is determined by the architect or building company.

My daughter's name is Taaniko, so I designed a taaniko pattern on the computer, then painted it directly onto Hardiflex panels. The design is painted with Resene Black, Resene Red Berry and Resene White.

I designed and built my simple house for less than $125,000. It has a ground concrete floor with paua laminated feature triangles sealed under Resene Uracryl. The house exterior is Resene Napa, the interior walls and ceiling are all Resene Half Tea, the doors are Resene Double Tea, and the bathroom and ensuite are Resene Quarter Tea. The timber feature wall was blonded with Resene Rock Salt. I'm pleased with the colour choices.
– Raewyn



Resene Aqua Squeeze

We look forward to receiving your letters and queries, and would particularly like to see any weird and wonderful ways you have used Resene paints. The best letter will win a Get Decorating Kit from Resene.

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